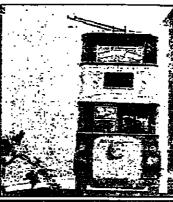
Shakespeare made us fall-out of love

Death of the suburbs



THE SECTIMES

Erotic TV goes too far, media times pages 38-41 Jordanians fear death is imminent

Hussein flies home after doctors fail

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN AMMAN

A DYING King Hussein was last night flying back to Jordan with the apparent inten-tion that he should die on home soil after a second bone marrow transplant failed to

gain remission of his cancer. The great fear of everyone here is that the King is rushing home to die among his people and not on foreign turf," a Jordanian former diplomat said. "We all know that is what he would always have wanted."

The move caught the Jordanian authorities by surprise as earlier it had been announced that the 63-year-old monarch would remain in isolation at the Mayo clinic, Minnesota, for two weeks to give the second operation time to take efiect. Efforts had been made through the state-controlled press and television to convince jittery Jordanians, deeply apprehensive of life without the charismatic King who has ruled them for 47 turbulent vears, that his morale was

Samir Farraj, the King's doctor, said that Hussein's condition on leaving the US was critical, leading many Jordanians to fear that he might not even survive the long plane journey. He very nearly died due to complications arising from a low blood count as he was being flown back unexpectedly to the US last month.

"His Majesty's condition has become critical due to the

failure of the functions of the internal organs," Lieutenant-General Farraj said. In 1992, the King had a kidney and ureter removed in a previous cancer operation.

Last night, a mood of near-panic gripped the strategic kingdom wedged between Israel and two Arab dictatorships. Only last month he returned in triumph to Amman after months of treatment at the Mayo clinic and immediately deposed his brother, Hassan, as Crown Prince and heir to

Western diplomats said that Jordanian forces had been placed on special alert in case of any attempt by neighbour-ing Syria or Iraq to try to take advantage of the crisis in the Hashemite kingdom to foment instability. Crown Prince Abdullah, who replaced Prince Hassan, is a major-general in command of the special forces but a political novice with little

experience of diplomacy. Shortly before the King's plane took off with doctors at his side, a senior government official said: "It is an extraordinary time for us, but things are running as smoothly as they can be, given the difficult situation. We have concerns, but we are not worried about the future of the country."

As with every aspect of the recent drama inside the court and the family intrigues that underly it. Jordanians re-

ceived their first news of the King's journey home from foreign broadcasting stations and word of mouth. International telephone lines quickly became jammed.

It was only later that Jordanian television made a bland announcement, playing down the gravity of the situation by saying that the King would be flown by helicopter from the airport to the Hussein Medical Centre on the outskirts of Amman to receive further treatment.

Behind the scenes, preparations were being made for what could turn into the most significant and high-security funeral in the Middle East since President Sadat was buried in Cairo after his assas.ination there by Islamic extremists in 1981.

World broadcasting organisations were making frantic bids to block-book rooms in Amman's small number of top-class hotels.

In addition to leaders from around the world anxious to pay respects to the King and to show support for his successor, many members of foreign royal families are expected to attend. They include the Prince of Wales, who this week sent his congratulations to Crown Prince Abdullah.

This has only confirmed that in January the King came home to do the business put his throne in what he be-



FREE BOOKS FOR

King Hussein waving to his people on returning to Jordan from the US last month

hands and to return it to his hands with or embraced more own line," a diplomat said.

The second homecoming this morning will contrast poignantly with the King's courageous return at the controls of his own jet just over two weeks ago when he informed his people that he had been cured of the lymphatic cancer that had kept him in the US for six months. Against medical advice, he drove 15 miles through the city in an open-top

lieved was the safest pair of car in lashing rain and shook than 2,000 of his subjects.

The Times has learnt that some of the King's doctors tried to prevent him from returning to Amman then and urged him to stay on longer in London. But he insisted. "He said that only the sight of his people on the streets would give the legitimacy he wanted to changed back the succession," said one source. In a bid to quell continuing

rumours of feuding at court, Prince Hassan yesterday chaired a session of the Jerusalem committee which he has always run. This was his first public duty since he was deposed and retired in a huff to

his residence. Officials denied an Israel television report that Prince Hassan had sought permission from the King to move with his family to England.

News censored, page 16

Surprise rate cut of 0.5% cheers City but hits savers

By Alasdair Murray and Susan Emmett

SAVERS were dealt a savage blow yesterday with the fifth successive monthly cut in the Bank of England base rate from 6 per cent to 5.5 per cent. National Savings certificates returns hit a 40-year low.

The Bank's unexpected decision to trim base rates was prected with widespread acclaim by the business and the unions, relieved that further action has been taken to tackle the rapidly slowing economy. Mortgage lending rates were cut to their lowest levels for 30

Although none of the banks or building societies announced an immediate cut in their savings rates, saving returns are expected to drop by the end of the month. The average no-notice account now pays a meagre 2.13 per cent while 90-day accounts pay about 3.78 per cent, accordin to Moneyfacts, the financial data publication.

The Bank said it had taken the decision because of continuing concerns about the health of the global economy and signs that consumer demand and domestic inflation remain weak. Base rates have fallen from a peak of 7.5 per cent last autumn to their lowest level in

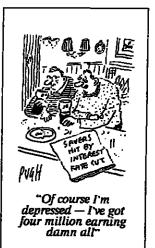
There was relief in the Government because the closed the gap between UK and European interest rates and made the prospect of a "soft landing" for the economy more likely. The Prime Minister said the reduction should help the economy weather "what was always going to be a tougher situation for jobs

and businesses". However, Francis Maude. the Shadow Chancellor, said the Bank clearly thought the economy was "in a lot more trouble than Gordon Brown complacently predicts". Mr Maude said the savings ratio (the percentage of income saved) had gone down by almost a third since Labour came to office.

He accused the Government of embarking on a "vindictive attack on savings" just when a savings culture was beginning to take root. "As part of their policy to raise taxes without people realising they have been hit. Labour have chosen to hit people's pensions and savings. In doing so they have jeopardised the culture of sav-

National Savings, which holds £64 billion of savers money, has indicated that its rates are going to fall even fur-Continued on page 2, coi 5

> Investors' jitters, page 27 Commentary, page 29



Old-aged peers

Life peers over the age of 75. such as Baroness Thatcher and Baron Callaghan of Cardiff, face expulsion from a reformed House of Lords. Ministers are examining proposals to allow about two-thirds of the existing 502 life peers to

Rover threat

Longbridge, the huge Rover car plant in the West Mid-lands with 14,000 employees may be abandoned by its parent company, BMW, after a power struggle at the German headouarters...

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Failure of Diana trademark plea paves way for a people's pin-up

AN ATTEMPT by the family and memorial fund of Diana Princess of Wales, to turn her face into a trademark has been turned down by the Patent

The ruling should make

Diana's likeness as freely avail-

able as effigies of Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Presley and James Dean, the other 20thcentury heroes who died tragically young. The Patent Office ruling, following 16 months of intense ne-gotiations, is a blow for celebrities hoping to stop opportun-ists exploiting their fame. If Diana's family and fund had

whelming power to control the way her image was used. The Patent Office, which has never allowed a dead person's likeness to become a registered trademark, ruled that Diana is an historical figure rather than a commercial

succeeded, they would have

won unprecedented and over-



brand. The attempt to turn the late Princess into a trademark was made by submitting 52 photographs of her to cover every age, mood, outfit and

angle. Enough pictures were pro-

vided to create a three-dimensional image of Diana, which would have helped to prevent the manufacture of unofficial dolls, sculptures and holo-

The family's only chance of

stopping a free-for-all in souvenirs of the Princess now is to ask the High Court to take the unusual step of overruling the Patent Office decision. They must do so by March 3. The only living people to

as trademarks in Britain are the racing drivers Jacques Villeneuve and Damon Hill and footballer Eric Cantona. They succeeded because they were able to convince the Patent Office that they were al-ready trading on their image in a commercial way.

Villeneuve submitted three photographs of his face with different expressions. Cantona sent one of his face and another of the back of his shirt reading "Cantona 7". Hill has only turned his eyes into a trademark, staring through the visor of his Formula I helmet. The Diana application was far more comprehensive.

The souvenir industry will react quickly to the ruling. So far, there have been no Diana posters in shops because publishers feared being sued by the litigious memorial fund. Now the late Princess, mother, cover girl and campaigner for the dispossessed can assume a

RAC prangs members' £34,000 windfalls

By JOANNA BALE

ABOUT 12,000 members of the Royal Automobile Club who had been banking on a £34,000 windfall from selling RAC Motoring Services to Cedant, the American conglomerate, had their payouts cancelled when the deal was

called off yesterday. Cendant pulled out of the £450 million sale when Kim Howells, the Competition and Consumer Affairs Minister, attached strings to the deal after a Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation. The RAC immediately announced plans to float the company on the London Stock Exchange in the summer. It also said that some other potential trade and financial buyers had expressed an interest in a deal and that discussions would go on in

parallel with flotation preparations. The failed deal was a blow for the members, many of whom had spent their windfall. On being told of the news, Ronnie Fox, a senior partner in the London law firm Fox Williams, said: "Aargh! I've already spent the money on a little sports car. I bought the car thinking this will just tie up nicely with the money coming in. It's a great shame, but let's hope that another buyer will come along soon."

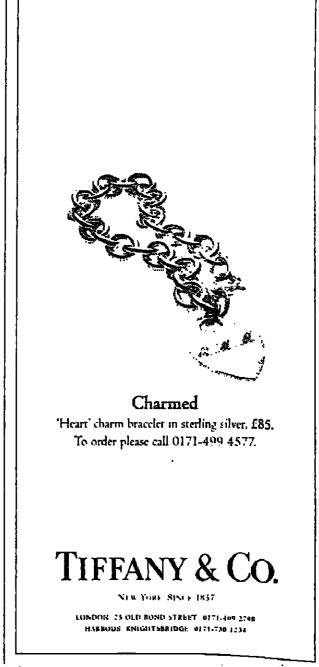
Another member, an advertising executive, is known to have rekindled a teenage love affair with powerful motorcycles, while one QC fulfilled his desire for a Jaguar XJS.
The 12,000 members, who are entit-

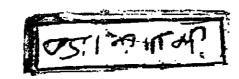
led to use the RAC's luxurious headquarters in Pall Mall, central London, were on course for the windfall until Peter Mandelson, the former Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, referred the bid to the Monopolies and

Mergers Commission in September. Cendant pulled out yesterday after Kim Howells, the Competition and Consumer Affairs Minister, ruled that, in line with a Monopolics and Mergers Commission recommendation. Cendant would have to divest itself of Green Flag, the breakdown company.

if the RAC takeover were to go ahead. The RAC said: "We are very disappointed with the government decision. It is now up to the board to get the best deal for shareholders."

Flotation question, page 27





Once more round the block without loss of marbles

s we age, the lure of the familiar grows. How comforting is the known! Books we've aiready read, resorts we've visited, old

haunts, old chums. And old debates. Yesterday a doomed House of Lords shuddered at the abyss - and reached for a security blanket: an argument about the return

of the Elgin Marbles. The umpteenth debate old classic and hoary perennial, this is one of their lordships' favourites. Like a Gilbert & Sullivan operetta they know the lines. The pros and cons are settled, rehearsed and simole to understand. In a bewil-

techno hip-hop and Glenn Hoddle, this is something peers can really get their griz-

They went at it eagerly. Lord Jenkins of Putney (in the half-remembered past an Arts Minister) put his Question: "Will Her Majesty's Government respond favourably to the Greek Government's request for the return of the Par-

thenon Marbles to Athens?" Calling them "the Parthenon Marbles" shows you are aware of Greek sensitivities. Wispy-bearded Lord Jenkins is one of those revolutionary hotheads who want to let the



MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

Marbles go. According to the libretto of this operetta he therefore joins the red troupe. The blue troupe is characterised by retired museum boffins and growling Tories of

the "why-oh-why?" school. But Jenkins departed from the script, introducing a novelty stage-prop: a piece of paper - an invitation (he said) from Greece, to talks. Waving it he declared that he would now hand it to the minister. A riople of surprise. Lord McIntosh of Haringey declined the invitation.

Then another novelty. Jenkins produced an opinion poli proving (he said) that a majority of the public supported him. Odd. I later interviewed the 27-strong queue for the Lords public gallety. Only three knew what the

Scene 2 next the minister's reply. Causing a flutter of con-

beating about the bush with Lady Saltoun: "My lords. we' re saved them and we should cern among the blue troupe, McIntosh didn't say "Elgin Marbles" but "Parthenon keep them." For the red Sculptures". Nothing to fear, however. Whatever they were, they weren't going back. It would be "a disaster" if gallertroupe, Lord Rea hailed a cut in Athens air-pollution.

ies and museums had to return everything originating abroad. His lordship was too polite to spell it out: Britain would be left with some flint tools, crossbows and a couple of oil paintings of aristocrats with spaniels. Lord Windlesham, a museum boffin, seemed to agree.

Lord Strabolgi and Lady Saltoun of Abernethy joined the blue troupe. There's no

As eyer, the Liberal Democrats found the Third Way. A solemn Lord Falkland told peers that on the one hand it was "reasonable" for the Greeks to claim the Marbles back; on the other, we were mount" they be kept in the best place. "Consensus" must sought, he warbled. Belgium?

One peer's reason for keep-

ient Even McIntosh felt this

went too far: São Paolo's splendid museum, he said, contained much he could more easily see here: this was perhaps not an argument for airlifting its contents from Brazil to London. In dealing with his peers. McIntosh gets dangerously close to feather-ruffling levels

of scorn. Lord Mishcon asked whether he was in favour of the return of marbles general-iy. McIntosh snapped. "De-pends who's lost them, my ords.

Shock waves rocked the

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sex abuse statistics 'too low'

Official figures greatly under-estimate the prevalence of child sex abuse, a Home Office report said. In 1995 3,957 people in England and Wales were cautioned or convicted for sexual offences against chil-dren, but police reports sug-gest about 72,600 cases a year according to the report's au-thor, Don Grubin, Professor of Forensic Psychiatry at Newcastle upon Type University. In spite of parents' worries about "stranger danger", the report found that most victims knew their abuser. Eighty per

cent offenders were linked to babysitting.
The report added that about a third of all sex crimes were committed by teenage boys

cent of child sex offences took place in the home of the offender or the victim. A fifth of cases involving female adoles-

Illegal refugees

Some 20,000 asylum-seekers are on the run in Britain, the Government has disclosed. The Home Office Minister Lord Williams of Mostyn said last night that the figure, which was calculated by the Immigration and Nationality Directorate, included those who had breached immigration rules or were "out of con-tact" with officials.

Pinochet waits

The House of Lords reserved judgment, to a date to be decided, after a 12-day hearing into whether General Pinochet is immune from arrest and extradition to Spain over alleged human rights crimes. The latest hearing followed the Law Lords setting aside their previous decision to overturn a High Court ruling that the general has immunity.

Legal aid flaws

The criminal legal-aid budget has failed to win approval from government auditors for the seventh year running. The National Audit office found aid being granted without sufficient proof of entitlement in 25 per cent of cases and errors by court officials in calculating claimants contributions in 38 per cent of cases. The total budget is £600 million.

Tube strike on

London Underground staff will stage a 48-hour strike in a dispute over job security and employment conditions once private companies have taken control of track, and signalling. The Rail, Maritime and Transport union will tell its 7.000 members not to report for duty between 6pm on Sunday. February 14. until 6pm on Tuesday, February 16.

Viewers bugged

Thousands of people called the Government's "millenni-um bug" hotline after seeing an item on daytime television that said the computer problem could bring "centuries without water or light". The feature, during Wednesday's This Morning, was dubbed "ir-responsible and dangerous" by Action 2000, the campaign body and hottine organiser.

Life peers could be forced to quit at 75

LIFE peers over the age of 75. such as Baron Callaghan of Cardiff and Baron Jenkins of Hillhead, face expulsion from a reformed House of Lords under plans for a mandatory reurement age.

Ministers are examining proposals to allow about twothirds of the existing 502 life peers to stay on in a fully reformed second chamber. But they could impose a retirement age of 75 to exclude 148 life peers as there would not be enough room for them all.

A bar on the over-75s would prevent many distinguished members of "the great and the good" from playing a part in parliament. Those forced out would include Baron Attenborough, 75, the film director: Baron Weatherill, 78, the former Speaker, and Baron Healey. 81. the former Labour Chancelior. Baroness Jay of Paddington, 59, the Leader of the Lords would survive, but her father, Lord Callaghan, 86, the former Prime Minister, would not. Baroness Thatcher is 75 next year.

Other expelled peers would include Baroness Castle of Blackburn, 88, the former Labour Cabinet minister. Lord Jenkins, 78, the former Liberal Leader in the Lords, Baron Rix. 75, the former doyen of Whitehall farce, and Baron



Thatcher: the lady will

Hailsham of St Marylebone, 91, the former Lord Chancellor. At 100, Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls. would also face the chop. Vol-untary retirement would also be encouraged by allowing life peers who give up their voting and speaking rights to retain their "club rights" to use the Lords' bars and restaurants. The fixed retirement age

prompt charges of could ageism against the Government which before Christmas launched a fresh drive against age discrimination in the workplace with a voluntary code. The option to allow 354 exist ing life peers under the age of

75 to remain in the Lords provides a fresh signal of the growing support within the Government for having a largely appointed second chamber. Other members would probably be chosen by indirect or direct election.

Next week, the Government will appoint a Royal Commission - chaired by Lord Wakeham, the former Tory Cabinet minister - to bring forward second-stage proposals within a year for a fully reformed second chamber. A first-stage Bill to expel hereditary peers received its second reading in the Commons this week.

Ministers believe that retaining some of the life peers would give the new chamber an element of continuity. The peers would provide a wealth of experience and save the Government the enormous task of having to appoint a huge swathe of new members.

The proposal would also make it easier to find people willing to accept a life peerage during the transitional House of Lords. If life peers were not to be kept on for the fully reformed chamber, many potential nominees would baulk at being appointed for just a few years. A spokesman for Lady Jay said: "These are all ideas that the Royal Commission would have to consider."



TWO lorries lie on their sides on the Gales batter North Al at Boroughbridge in North Yorkshire after being blown over as severe gales wreaked havoc across northern Britain yesterday. Fourteen lorries toparound until lunchtime, and even after pled over on one stretch of the Al at

that there will be strong gusts." Six thousand homes were without Scotch Corner in North Yorkshire as gusts reached 90mph. Police warned electricity in north Scotland. Scottish drivers of high-sided vehicles not to Hydro Electric said severe gale-force winds brought disruption throughout Forecasters predicted little respite toits area, with Shetland, Wick and Dinday. The PA WeatherCentre said: gwall worst affected. Efforts to restore guard belicopter were alerted, and

and ferry services, and helicopters were being placed on standby, the comparry said

A Panamanian-registered cargo ship ran aground off Orkney after dragging her anchor in the early hours. Kirkwall lifeboat and a coast-The extremely windy weather will be supplies were hit by disruption to air stood by to rescue the Baltic Champ's

er managed to free herself on a rising tide and was escorted by lifeboat to Kirkwall harbour.

In England, hoardings on buildings in Sheffield city centre were blown off and a shopping trolley swept up by the wind slightly injured an 80-year-old woman in Barnsley. Another South Yorkshire pensioner was swept off her feet by the gusts, police said.

Forecast, page 26

Farmers' fury over extended beef ban

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

FARMERS and butchers rounded on Nick Brown, the Apriculture Minister, vesterday for refusing to end the 14-month ban on beef on the Mr Brown, who had been

use the Al or M62.

hinting since before Christmas that cuts such as T-bone steaks would be soon be back on sale, told the Commons that the ban would stay for at least six more months. Opposition MPs accused

the Government of being inconsistent and of ignoring independent advice on some food safety issues while heeding it on others. Mr Brown said he had been

advised by the Chief Medical Officer. (CMO) Professor Liam Donaldson, that there was still a small, though reduced risk of becoming infected with the human form of "mad cow" disease from eating bone-in beef. In his advice. released yesterday. Professor Donaldson voices concern that a few cattle infected with BSF. by their mothers might still be entering the food chain.

"I know that this will be a great disappointment to many in the food and farming industries and to many would-be consumers," Mr Brown told MPs, "But the need to protect public health and retain confidence in beef and beef products remains the Govern-

ment's paramount concern. "It is encouraging that the CMO sees grounds for hoping the situation will improve and, PILL IS MORE OF A RISK THAN A T-BONE

Meat lovers who ignore the beef-on-the-bone ban have more chance of dying from taking the Pill or being struck by lightning. The Department of Health's calculations put the risk of dying from eating a T-bone steak at about one in two billion. Ian Langford, a senior research fellow in risk perception at the University of East Anglia, said: "There is no such thing as no risk, but one in two billion is close to zero. To put it in context, if the risk is less than one in a billion you are more than 100 times more likely to be killed by lightning and 10,000 times more likely to be murdered." The Chief Medical Officer has argued, however, that too little is known about "mad cow disease to make valid comparisons.

if we can, consistent with a further assessment of the medical and scientific evidence, we will lift the ban after the review recommended by the CMO for

six months time." Ben Gill, president of the Na-

tional Farmers' Union, said the decision to keep the ban defied common sense and was out of all proportion to any risk involved. "All the scientific evidence which has been

published so far has conclud-

ed that any risk from eating beef on the bone is absolutely miniscule", he said.

Roger Kelsey, of the Nation-al Federation of Meat and Food Traders, representing 3.000 independent butchers. said: "It is a complete nonsense. Mr Brown said he wanted to let the consumer decide. Now he has done a U-turn." Although beef on the bone

accounted for only 5 per cent of all beef sales before the ban, Mr Kelsey estimated that specialist butchers had lost up to 15 per cent of their business. The Consumers' Association

called for more consistency on food safety policy, but said that, in the light of the CMO's advice, it was "satisfied that on this occasion the Government has quite rightly placed public

M man fr

Academics raise pay ceiling

ACADEMICS in Britain have broken the \$200,000 pay harrier, according to a survey in today's edition of The Times Higher Education Supplement. The annual study, which monitors the

salaries of heads of higher education institutions, shows the directorship of the London Business School to be the plum job in the university system. The three men who held the post in turn

during 1997-98, when Professor George Bain moved to Queen's University, Belfast, earned £207,000. However, the top earner was an another member of staff at LBS, who was paid

The school refused to divulge his name last night, but said that the salary included a performance bonus and payments for teaching executive programmes. Professor Bain took a pay cut of almost

Higher education salaries top £200,000, says John O'Leary

£70,000 to move to Belfast but still earned the sixth-highest salary. His successors in the LBS directorship were Michael Earl and John Quelch.
Other university vice-chancellors have

considerable ground to make up, despite average pay rises of 4.8 per cent last year. David VandeLinde, of Bath University. is second on the THES list after an 8.9 per cent rise brought his salary to \$147,000. He has since taken a £7.000 pay cut in re-

rum for more holidays. Both Oxford and Cambridge are well down the list. Sir Alec Broers, at Cambridge, shared 41st place with Professor Frank Gould, of East London University. on £117.000, while Dr Colin Lucas, at Oxford, was 115th on £87,404.

A handful of vice-chancellors saw their pay reduced during 1997-98. Mike Fitzger-ald, the former Vice-Chancellor of Thames Valley University took the biggest cut, of 4.3 per cent, bringing his safary to £89,000. He has since resigned after a damning report on the university by the Quality Assurance Agency.

The Association of University Teachers said that the vice-chancellors owed their record-breaking salaries to the efforts of lowly-paid lecturers. Paul Conrell, the assistant general secre-

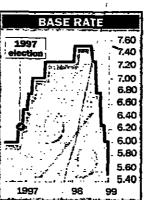
tary, said: "We wait to hear of a vice-chancellor who refuses to take a bigger pay rise than his staff. We suspect it will be a long

Fifth rate cut worries savers

Continued from page 1 ther. A spokesman said: "We will be looking at the shortterm and medium-term rates on the money markets and we will have to set out rates accordingly."

National Savings slashed rates five times last year and recently reduced all its rates by between 0.25 per cent and 0.5 per cent. Returns for Na-Savings certificates have hit a 40-year low with the launch of the 49th issue which now pays 3.25 per cent.

Pensioners, who rely on the salety of deposit accounts for a steady income, will be the most affected by the rate cuts. Harold Becker, a 77-year-old



pensioner from Twickenham, London, is worried that his standard of living will be af-

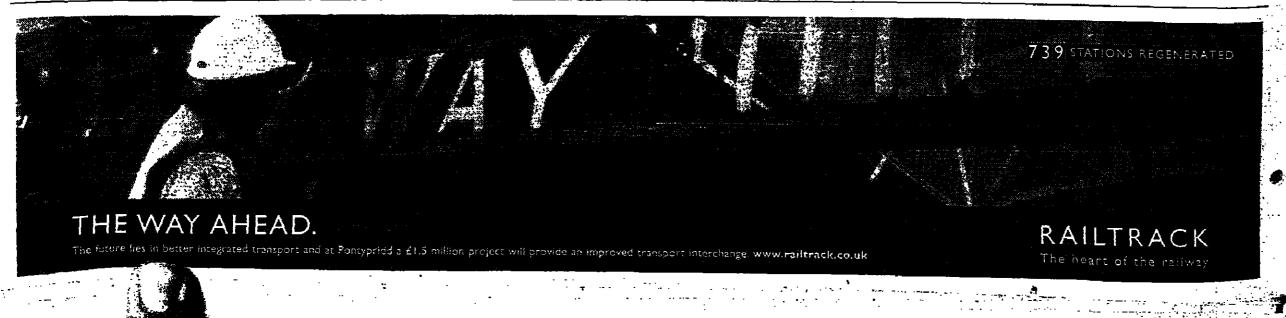
fected. Mr Becker said: "Oldage pensioners like me who rely on the income from their savings feel pretty lousy when rates drop every month," Major mortgage lenders quickly followed the Bank's

lead reducing their standard variable rates by as much as 0.5 percentage points. The Halifax and Nationwide claimed that their new rates were the lowest on offer since 1966. Halifax cut its standard variable rate by 0.5 percentage points to 6.95 per cent while Nationwide reduced its lending rate by a similar amount to 6.54.

Other lenders, however, cut their rates by smaller amounts taking advantage of the latest

cut in base rates to try andto improve their profit margins. The Abbey National said it was only reducing its rate by 0.4 percentage points to 7 per cent while Cheltenham & Gloucester reduced its rates by 0.46 percentage points to 6.99

Kate Barker, chief economist at the Confederation of British Industry, welcomed the "decisive move" but said that "rates can and should be further reduced to 5 per cent over the next couple of months." Union leaders of fered the Bank their seal of approval although they pleaded for action to help revive the manufacturing sector.



ALFRUSTRATED: A customis III SBS raid ()11 mg boat

> larding party mmandos ir

Wealthy

fugitive

escapes

second

hearing

By STEWART TENDLER

CRIME CORRESPONDENT BRIAN CHARRINGTON. the sometime garage owner and police informant accused of being one of Britain's biggest drug dealers, has escaped trial for the second time. With-

in hours of the collapse of the

Simon de Danser case, the

CPS announced that it was abandoning extradition pro-

held. Mr Charrington. 41, has

been free since August when a

Spanish court released him on bail of £200,000.

Once a garage owner and second-hand car dealer in Mid-

dlesbrough, Mr Charrington

was first arrested in 1992 as he

stepped off his private aircraft.

He was accused of a conspira-cy involving I.400kg of cocaine worth more than £150 million.

Customs officers allegedly

ceedings against him. Arrested in 1997 after his brother and the SBS men were

JUSTICE FRUSTRATED: smuggling case collapses as judge condemns investigators for disregarding law

Customs sink SBS raid on drug boat

IT WAS one of the most dramatic drugs seizures made on the high seas by British Customs officers.

Heavily armed commandos from the elite Special Boat Squadron led the raid on the 52ft Maltese-registered motor vessel Simon de Danser, 100 miles off the Portuguese coast

the culmination of a 12-month international surveillance operation.

On board they found 4.128 kilograms of cannabis resin with a street value of £14.5 million — as well as a Special Boat Squadron colleague and two recently discharged members of the squadron, who were arrested and accused of helping to organise the shipment. A second SBS man was arrested later.

At Bristol Crown Court yesterday, however, the case against the ten alleged smugglers, collapsed in disarray. It was thrown out by a judge who described the Customs investigation that led to their arrests as "a catalogue of flawed proceedings, illegalities and incompetence".

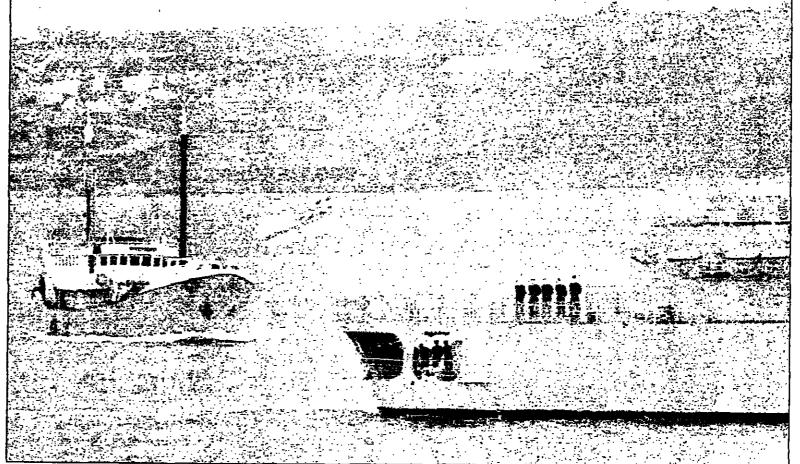
The trial, which had been

ended without a jury being sworn in. After hearing almost three weeks of legal argument, Judge John Foley ruled that there had been overwhelming abuse of due process.

He said: "This case has revealed a culture and climate of carelessness, recklessness and disregard for the rules, procedures and conventions of Maltese law, British law and international law." He criticised the "destruction" of potentially important evidence such as the ship's navigational charts, which were subjected to forensic examination before being formally photographed. He also said that senior Customs investigators were "unconvincing" witnesses.

Within hours of the judge's ruling the Crown Prosecution Service announced that it was dropping extradition proceedings against Brian Charrington, 40, a former car dealer, who lives in Spain. He was accused of being the financier of the shipment of cannabis from Morocco to Britain.

His elder brother David, a powerboat racing champion from Powderham,



The Simon de Danser, which was boarded by commandos 100 miles off Portugal, being escorted into Plymouth by a Royal Navy warship

charged yesterday. The court had been told that the Simon de Danser had been shadowed across the Mediterranean from Malta by Customs investigators. After a stopover in Madeira, the ship and its ille-gal cargo headed north. On May 5, 1997. Operation Darden culminated in the interception of the vessel in international waters by HMS

York, a Royal Navy warship. The vessel and its cargo were escorted to the Royal Navy dockyard at Devonport. The seven men on board, and three others arrested in Britspiracy to smuggle Moroccan cannabis resin into Britain.

British officials had been given permission to seize the vessel by Lino Vassalli, director of the Maltese Maritime Authority. In fact, the only person with authority to grant official approval was Borg Berthet, the Attorney-General of Malta, the court was told. Lawrence Montalto, a Cus-

toms officer, said that he had contacted the Attorney-General's office but there was no record of him making such a telephone call.

Judge Foley said: "I did not find Mr Montalto a credible

was being untruthful."

The British told the Maltese authorities that the vessel would be seized "off the coast of the UK" and misled them into believing it was in international waters when it was still berthed in Madeira. The judge said that the boarding hap-pened 900 miles from Britain.

There was also uncertainty over the vessel's destination. The judge said that David Raynes, assistant chief investigation officer for the Customs in the West Country and Wales, was going "on a hunch" rather than firm evidence

boarding illegal. Alun Jenkins, QC, for the Crown, said that, if there had been a "procedural" mistake, it was an innocent one and

when he decided it was head-

ing for Britain. The judge, who

described Mr Raynes and Mr

Vassalli as unconvincing wit-

nesses, said there was some

evidence that the ship was

bound for The Netherlands.

which would have made the

The Customs and Excise National Investigation Service and the National Crime Squad, which conducted the

joint investigation, said that the collapse of the trial was regrettable and disappointing. Such cases are always complex. This case presented added dimensions and difficulties.

The investigation culminated in the interdiction of the vessel 100 miles off Portugal. In excess of four tonnes of cannabis with a value of just under \$14.5 million was seized and thus prevented from reaching the illicit drugs market.

should not make the seizure 'All the agencies involved will consider the details of the judge's remarks to see what procedural lessons can be learned for the future."

found £2 million in cash at his home, some of it allegedly bearing traces of drugs. Customs also seized a £15 million consignment of cocaine after bugging his home.

During the investigation a further 900kg of the drug was allegedly discovered inside ingots of metal.

But Mr Charrington, who was one of 10 people charged, never stood trial. The case was

dropped after his claim that he had been working as a police informer was backed by Cleveland detectives. It was said that his arrest had ruined a chance to stop Colombian co-caine entering Europe.

Mr Charrington's release prompted questions in the

Commons. A four-year investigation into allegations of corruption against two experienced Cleveland officers end-

ed without prosecution. Mr Charrington moved to Spain and was reported three years ago to be under investi-gation by the French police in connection to a cargo of canna-bis found on a yacht. He was

never charged.
At his villa in Calpe, Mr Charrington has a private helicopter, luxury cars and weapons. But he has not forgotten his informing days - he has launched an action against police for £1 million that he

claims he is still owed.

Boarding party found commandos in crew

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

WHEN members of the Spe-cial Boat Squadron raided the Simon de Danser in mid-Atlantic, they would have recognised some of those who were already aboard.
The 279-tonne vessel's crew

included one serving SBS man. Nigel Spencer, and two who had recently left the squadron. Peter Mercer and the skipper, Charles Thomas. A second SBS man, Mark

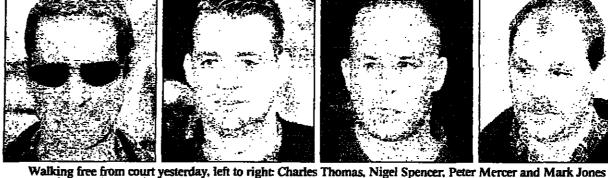
proud of its elite reputation as a sea-going version of the

Jones, was arrested in England after the raid. Both Mr Jones and Mr Spencer have since left the service. The reunion on board the drug ship would not have been a warm one. The SBS, which recruits exclusively from the Royal Marines, is

Unlike their army counter-

parts, members have so far largely resisted the temptation to brag in print about their achievements. Major General Robert Fulton, Commandant-General of the Royal Ma-rines, said that the regiment was "very proud of our hardearned reputation, profession-alism and self-discipline.

"We were extremely disappointed to hear in May 1997 that two serving officers had



been arrested and this disappointment was greatly magnified by the nature of the al-

The Royal Marines have a

leged offences. total antipathy towards any-

thing to do with drugs and no sympathy for anyone involved in such business."

The acquitted defendants were David Malcolm Charrington, 45, of Powderham,

Devon; Timothy Paul Spink,

33. of Torquay, Devon; Charles John Thomas. 37, of Poole. Dorset: Nigel Spencer. 28, of Poole, Peter David Mercer. 28. of Clevedon, North

Jones, 33, of Paignton, Devon; and Anthony Dallara, 34, Martin John Wallsden, 42, and Alain Coelier, 38, who all live in Spain.

JUSTICE FRUSTRATED: trial flawed, say judges IRA man free because secret agents broke law procuring the unlawful deportive terrorist cell that was plantation of the appellant reprening to bomb London. His trial jury heard that, on sents, in the view of this court,

Nicholas Mullen greets his supporters as he and his daughter Jessica leave the Court of Appeal yesterday

ficers ensured that Mr Mullen was denied access to a lawver. to avoid the risk that Zimabwean authorities "would be pressured into deporting hìm elsewhere".

The court heard that the deportation was stage-managed The ideal would be for Mul-

len to be arrested shortly before the departure of a direct flight and put aboard it. A stage manager's skills would be essential here ... Informa-tion about the SIS actions came to light six months ago after Mr Mullen's lawyers demanded full disclosure from

tion for their appeal. Foreign Office sources said last night that in 1990, when Mr Mullen was convicted, disclosure rules did not entitle the defence to see any papers relating to the intelligence services. So the role of M16 in bringing Mr Mullen back to

court. Mr Mullen's freedom yesterday immediately focused attention on which Conservative government minister had approved the illegal ac-tions of M16 between 1988

Douglas Hurd. Home Secretary at the time, was unavailable for comment last night.

publican prisoner held in an English jail was freed yesterday after the Court of Appeal ruled that intelligence officers had broken the law in bringing him to trial for a mainland bombing campaign.
Nicholas Mullen, who was

THE last Northern Ireland re-

jailed for 30 years for conspiracy to cause explosions, did not dispute the evidence connecting him to a heavy bombing campaign planned by the IRA in 1989 against the House of Commons, individual politi-

cians and judges.

But his conviction was quashed by the Court of Appeal after it emerged that intelligence officers had brought him to England for trial through deportation rather

process of extradition. The judges ruled that the British authorities had shown "a blatant and extremely serious fail-ure to adhere to the rule of law" in conspiring with Zim-babwe, where Mr Mullen was staying, to deport him.

The prisoner, who has served nearly ten years in Frankland prison. Co Durham, emerged yesterday hug-ging his 17-year-old daughter Jessica and saying: "I'm glad to be coming out of the front door rather than the back door. I have been wronged."

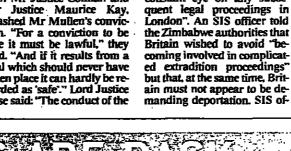
Mr Mullen was convicted in 1990 for his role as an IRA "fixer" who supplied premises, cars, false birth certificates and banking facilities to an ac-

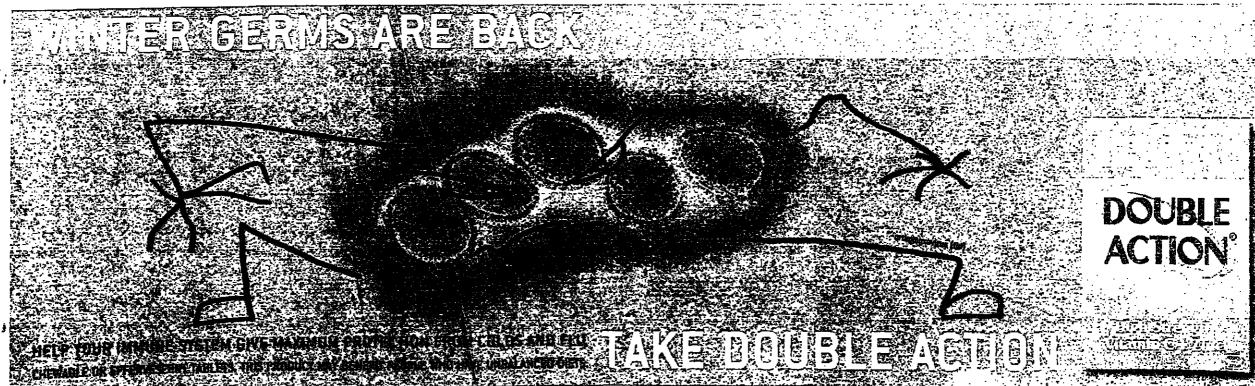
December 20, 1988, Mr Mul-len fled to Zimbabwe with his girlfriend, Jenny Payne, and Jessica, then seven. The next day police raided a South London flat rented by him and

found ammunition, Semtex and incendiary devices. Lord Justice Rose, sitting with Mr Justice Colman and Mr Justice Maurice Kay. quashed Mr Mullen's conviction. "For a conviction to be safe it must be lawful," they said. "And if it results from a trial which should never have taken place it can hardly be regarded as 'safe'." Lord Justice

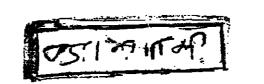
a blatant and extremely serious failure to adhere to the rule of law." The court was told that Brit-

ish secret intelligence service (SIS) officers furnished the Zimbabwean authorities with sufficient detail about Mr Mullen to warrant deporta-tion. This was done "with a constant eye on any subse-quent legal proceedings in









THE TIMES FRIDAY FEBRUARY 5 1999

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Islanders hope £700,000 grant will woo wives

REMOTE Hebridean island communities — "bachelor country" to the locals — are to receive European funding to

attract potential wives.

The grant of £711.000 will be spent on creating jobs that appeal to women so that they will be encouraged to seed to work the state of be encouraged to settle on the islands. Women have been steadily abandoning the area that stretches from the tip of North Uist to the tail of Bendoning the area that stretches from the tip of North Uist to the tail of Bendoning the stretches from the tail of Bendoning the stretches are 1206 of them. becula: there are 1,386 of them to 2,064 men.

Colin Campbell, an unmarried, retired army major who lives on Benbecula, admits that the lifestyle discourages many women. He has to hike across a boggy moor to reach his remote farmhouse, transport shopping half a mile by wheelbarrow and grapple with an outdoor shower once blown away in a gale. "Only a brave girl would come here,"

It is hoped that the grant, from the European LIFE programme, will alleviate the plight of the terminally single. A spokeswoman for the agency that will distribute the mon-ey, said: The number of women who leave the islands has become a very important demographic issue. A large part of our objective is to increase employment opportunities and create scope for women to

find work on the islands." One of the scheme's priorities is to preserve the traditional Hebridean way of life: croft-ing and fishing, which employ the bulk of unmarried men, could die out if there are no young people to take over.

The islands, with their inhospitable climate, lack of amenities and limited social life, have always found it hard to hold on to women. The majority of female school leavers attend college or university on the mainland and many never

One woman who returned to North Uist after four years at Glasgow University said: "After being away you realise how hard life is here. There are hardly any shops, no cine-

European cash will create jobs

to attract women

back to Outer

Hebrides, writes Gillian Harris

You have to get back into an island mind-set, accepting what it's like, and lots of women are

not willing to do that."
Now there is a feeling that the issue must be addressed. Isabel MacDonald, the area manager of Western Isles Enterprise, said: "Young women leaving has had an impact on the islands. There are great tracts of land populated by bachelors. Quite a few took over their crofts from their parents and have never married."

Tracking down the bach-elors is not easy. They are a shy and elusive breed with a pathological fear of being phoalone have taken their toll and many look horrified at the prospect of women invading their territory.

According to Uisdean Rob-ertson, 47, who works for Western Isles Council, bachelors like himself are not looking for wives. "We've never been particularly bothered by it and I've certainly never heard anyone complain about it. In my era there was not much going on socially on the island so we just stayed at home reading or watching television. Anyway. having so many single men keeps the divorce rate down. Men don't miss having wornen around. Myself, I'd rather have a bar of chocolate."

However Mr Campbell, 64, not a bachelor I know, including myself, who would say he deliberately wants to be a bach-elor. Most of them would very

they have not met anyone." Mr Campbell, a councillor

who runs a croft and fishes for shellfish, believes there is a macho side to island life that puts women off. "It's a bit like the Wild West in some respecis," he said. "Men gather in the pub for a few drams and to chat among themselves. But there will be no women in the

"Hotel bars are the only meeting place, or the churches. Although I understand there are more social functions being held nowadays, so that

It remains to be seen whether an influx of women will be welcome. Mr Campbell said: Men on the islands are proud of their traditions. They don't always take to new things."

Leading article, page 23



Colin Campbell, with his dog. Jess, has lived on Benbecula since 1972. He says most of the bachelors, including himself, would like to be married

The weather can dampen romance

the wettest places in Britain, with an average annual rainfall of 1,171 millimetres, and

one of the windiest. The best that can be said about the climate is that it is mild. Snow and ice rarely affect the islands, which are warmed by the Gulf Stream.

Women contemplating a move to the islands should bear in mind that the weather can play havoc with transport. The daily air service to Glasgow is frequently disrupted

during the winter, and in OUTER HEBRIDES

mains in port. Venues for romantic dates are limited. The nearest cinema is more than 100 miles away in Inverness. Getting there involves driving to North Uist, catching a ferry to Harris, another drive to Stornoway, a fourhour ferry journey to Ullapool and then an hour's drive to

The Uists have shops that sell food, newspapers and household goods, but any shoppers in search of high street names such as Jigsaw, Body Shop and French Connection have to catch a plane to Glasgow, at a cost of more than £200 return. There is a handful of hair-

dressers on the islands, but the nearest salon is in Inverness. which is also the location of the nearest department store

selling beauty products.

The islands have a limited number of bars and restaurants, serving Hebridean food, including shellfish, salmon and game. Most are closed on Sundays, however.

Nursery babies beat allergies

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

BABIES from small families who are sent to day nurseries before they are a year old are far less likely to develop allergies in later life, researchers have dis-

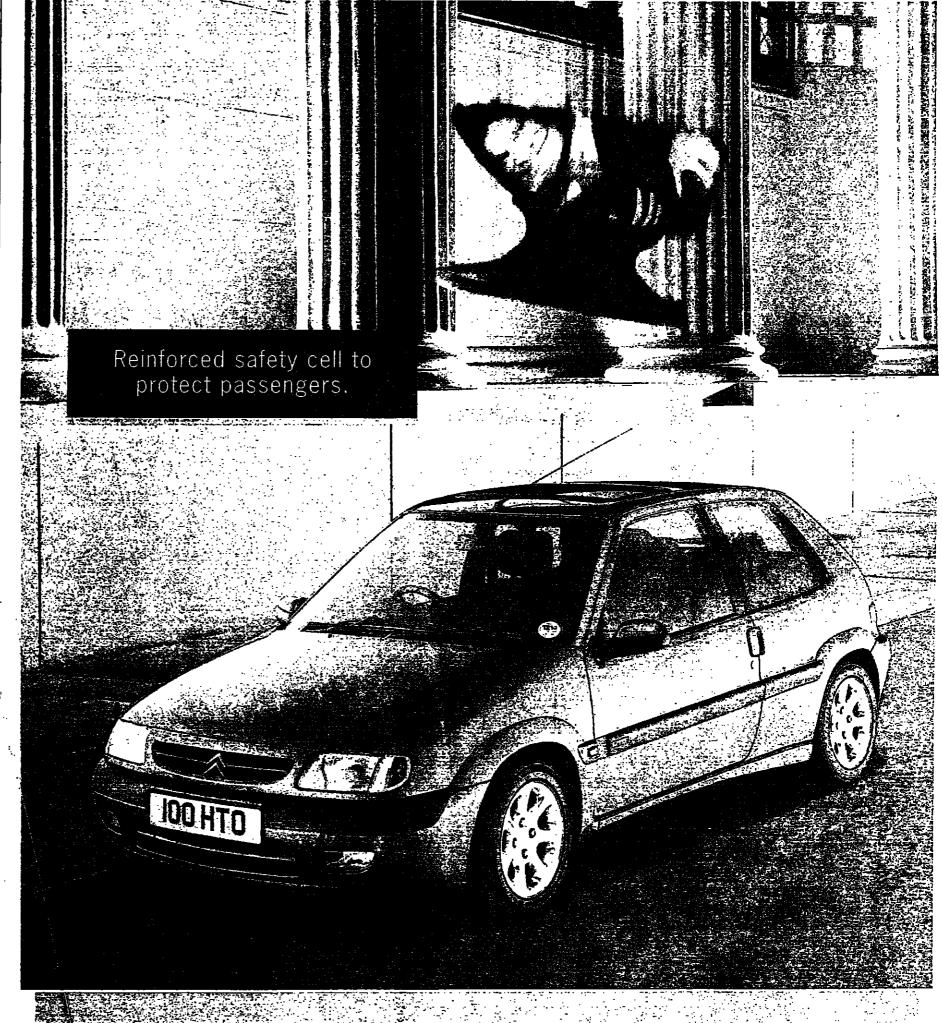
The study of nearly 2,500 children also found that those from families with four children or more were not as susceptible to allergies as they grew older.

The number of children who develop allergies has increased in recent years and one suspected reason is a decline in exposure to infections in early life.

The study, reported in The Lancet today, was carried out in three towns in eastern Germany between September 1992 and August 1993. The children were divided into three age groups - five to seven, eight to ten and II to 14. The parents they sent their children to nursery and also questioned about whether they smoked, used coal fires or gas and whether their homes were damp, situated on noisy streets or had fitted carpets.

The researchers, from Heinrich Heine University at Düsseldorf, then carried out tests to discover if the children were allergic to a range of irritants from grass to cat fur.

Among children from small families, the proportion of allergy-related conditions was found to increase in direct relation to the age the child went to a nursery. The older the child was when first sent to the nursery, the more likely it was to



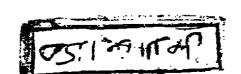
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School orchestras face the music

By JOHN O'LEARY

HUNDREDS of schools in England and Wales have lost their orchestras because they have no one to run them, according to a study published yesterday.

Although the five-year survey showed that more children are learning an instrument than in 1993. fewer can go on to group performance. Whereas two thirds of pupils could previously join an orchestra. run by their school or local authority, the proportion is now just over half.

Andrew Potter, chairman of the Performing Rights Society, which sponsored the survey, said many parents drew the line at paying for orchestra practices as well as individual tuition. But the prime cause of the decline was the loss of peripatetic music teachers, who often organised group playing.

The survey showed that one school in five had stopped taking local ausince gaining full budget control. The Government has promised an extra £180 million to restore free tuition in schools.

Almost 30 per cent of pupils received some form of music tuition and the study showed a wider range of instruments on offer. Percentage of schools offering instrumental tuition: woodwind 76: strings 75: brass 67: acoustic guitar 54: recorder 54: percussion 53: saxophone 47: piano 44: electronic keyboards 40; electric guitar 32.

Disabled rider may amputate arm to compete

A change in the rules will exclude talented dressage competitor from top flight, reports Michael Harvey

A TALENTED disabled rider is considering having her arm amputated to comply with a rule change banning her from top-level dressage competi-

Debbie Criddle, who has a disabled arm, took part in last year's national championships. But British Dressage, the sport's governing body. has introduced rules effectively excluding her from regional and national finals.

The new rules state that riders must keep two hands on the reins at all times. No "auxiliary means", such as special tack, are allowed.

Mrs Criddle, 32, from Stogumber, Somerset, believes the only way she can continue to take part at the highest level of the sport is to have her disabled right upper arm removed and an artificial arm and hand fitted.

The sport involves the rider taking the horse through a series of precise movements. The new rules were intended to comply with international regulations.

Mrs Criddle said: "When the new rulebook came out, it was a real blow. I have had dispensation to ride with ablebodied riders since 1990. I don't understand why riders in my position should be denied the chance to compete at regional and national level."

She told Horse and Hound magazine that she had already

sought medical advice about having her upper arm removed so that she can have a full artificial arm fitted.

Yesterday the Sports Council and the Riding for the Disabled Association said they were considering what action to take over the new rules. British Dressage said that it was urgently reviewing its new rules in a bid to "resolve the situation in the most sensible and reasonable way". A meet-

> Rules state that riders must keep two hands on the reins at all times ?

ing will take place next week between the three bodies. British Dressage said it had been an unwritten rule that riders had to have two hands on the reins in accordance with the international governing body's rules. A spokes-woman said that, until this year, individual dispensations were given to disabled riders to allow them to compete with

other riders. No mention was made of

not being allowed to compete at regional and national level as it was thought there were no disabled riders of a high enough standard. All British Dressage had done was to clarify the point in its new rule book, she said. The spokeswoman said: "Clearly these rules can present problems to people who wish to compete but who, for physical reasons, are una-ble to comply. Last year a lady who was unable to comply ful-

ly with British Dressage rules

qualified for and competed in

"We admire and applaud an-

the National Championships.

yone able to compete with the best despite their disablities.

but the situation caused Brit-

ish Dressage to re-examine its

Linda Whetstone, rules com-

mittee chairwoman at British

Dressage, said the organisa-

tion had done a great deal to

support disabled riders, and added: "It is not fair that Brit-

ish Dressage should be vilified

when it has done more than

any other discipline to help

these people. Every sport has

to have rules in order to

Last year British Dressage received £141.532 from the Na-tional Lottery and £25.000 from the Sports Council.

Ann Cutcliffe, chairman of

Riding for the Disabled dres-

sage, said an approach to the

international governing body.

rules," she added.

operate."

Debbie Criddle, who has competed at national level

the FEI, might be necessary. We are going to look at this rule to see if the FEI ruling is being interpreted in the right way. This is no one's fault, this is a rule that we have known existed for some time. It is just that only recently our riders have leapt forward and are now of a standard to reach the

The Sports Council said it was investigating the matter but refused to condemn the rule change. A spokesman

said: "We are here to encourage equal opportunities and would say to the sport's governing body that it should be doing everything it can to allow disabled people to compete alongside the ablebodied."

Riding for the Disabled pointed out that British Dressage had staged regional com-petitions for disabled dressage riders and ran the finals as part of its national champion-

Clarke supports **Premier** League's TV deal

By Adrian Lee

MANY football clubs could go out of business if the top few were allowed to negotiate television rights on the open market, Kenneth Clarke, the former Conservative Chancel-

The current £743 million deal between the Premier League, the BBC and BSkyB (which is 40 per cent owned by News International, publisher of The Times) resulted in a fair-er redistribution of wealth, said Mr Clarke, a keen Not-tingham Forest fan. The 20 Premiership clubs receive the bulk of the money, leaving the clubs in lower leagues to share

Mr Clarke said that, if clubs were allowed to arrange their own deals, the money would be concentrated in the elite. He was speaking for the Premier League, which is resisting legal moves by the Director-Gen-eral of Fair Trading to outlaw the television deal on the ground that it is anti-competi-

Mr Clarke told the Restrictive Practices Court in London that he was a lifelong supporter of Forest and watched live, but never televised, games. He admitted he was a believer in free-market economics, but said he wanted so see the smaller clubs "have a decent crack of the whip" and that meant that they should receive a share of the revenues.

If the collective deal was ruled unlawful, English foot-ball could be dominated by a handful of clubs who would see the Premiership as an entry to the more lucrative European competitions, he added The hearing continues.

NEWS IN BRIEF Two men remanded over boy

Two men appeared in court yesterday accused of killing a 16-year-old schoolboy whose body was found in a canal Pe-ter Andrew Barker, 32, and Darren Colling, 28, both from Sale. Manchester, were charged at Exeter Magis-trates' Court with the murder of George Mortimer in Exeter last weekend.

David Bowen, for the prosecution, applied for the two to be remanded for a week. There was no application for bail and reporting restrictions were not lifted during the 13-minute hearing.

The charges come after the discovery of the teenager's body in reedbeds at a beauty spot on the 400-year-old Exeter Ship Canal on Tuesday. He died from head injuries.

Killer Briton

Martin Smith, 30, a British fashion photographer, has admitted slitting a man's throat in'a Miami Beach bar on Sunday, police have confirmed. He is expected in court to face a charge of first-degree murder on February 22.

Smoke alarm

Vegetable-based eigarettes to help people to give up smok-ing may be harmful, a study at the University of Austria, Vienna, has found. They can lead to as much exposure to carbon monoxide as tobacco ones, The Lancet reports.

Cromwell snub

Members of St Michael's Ro-man Catholic Church in Oliver Cromwell's home town, Huntingdon, are refusing to attend an ecumenical service marking the 400th anniversary of his birth. Many of the congregation are of Irish origin.

Aitken bail stays

Jonathan Aitken, the former Tory minister who has admit-ted perjury and attempting to pervert the course of justice, withdrew an application to alter his bail conditions. He had been expected to ask for the return of his passport.

£16,500 claret

A 200-year-old bottle of Cha-£162500 including premium at a Christie's wine sale in Lon-don. The 1799 vintage was described at a tasting 20 years ago as: "Dry, lightish yet still a bit of meatiness."

Cellphone hoax

A Nottingham firm was inundated with callers after a hacker used the Internet to send a hoax message to 30,000 cellular telephone screens saying they had won a car and to ring the firm: A Doncaster man, 22. is due in court next month.

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Thrill-seekers look up to Portsmouth to visit one of three viewing

THE world's highest freefall ride, which will drop passengers at 110mph, will open in Portsmouth next year as part. of the city's plans to rival thewaterfronts of Sydney and San Francisco.

The ride will be built on the city's Millennium Tower, a sail-shaped structure that will be higher than the BT Tower in London.

A lift seating eight will climb to 350ft before plummeting in freefall, reaching a top speed of 110mph in a descent lasting four to five seconds. The ride will be so fast that a coin held flat in the hand will lift into mid-air.

Visitors without the stomach for such thrills will be able

platforms at the top of the 500ft tower. It will be part of Ganwharf

Quays, a £100 million scheme by Berkeley Group, which will include hernes and factory shopping There will also be a marina that will host the start and finish of The Times Clipper 2000 found the world yacht race, of which the developer is a sponsor. Robert Tincknell, of Berke-

ley Group, said that the millennium projects would turn Portsmouth into a "must-see" city for international tourists. "Portsmouth harbour has been shut off for 800 years. Now it's going to help to regenerate the city," he said.

THE SUNDAY TIMES **PRESENTS** Valentine's Day

tommy

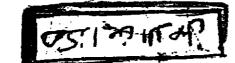
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Boyz Unlimited New Comedy Starts Tonight



Tomorrów in The Saturday Times KIDMAN, KUBRICK, CLOONEY, LUCAS... and the best films of '99 Exclusively previewed

The Perfect Weekend Paper

Elvis leaves Hackney all shook up

AFTER 17 years in a terraced house in East London. Elvis is

leaving.

A dispute with Hackney council over non-payment of £18.000 in business rates has concluded in the closure of the memorabilia shop Elvisly

Sid Shaw, the entreprencuri-al owner who opened the first Western supermarket in Russia in 1992, said yesterday: "I have fought the Graceland mafia. the Russian mafia and now I'm fighting the Hackney

As he spoke Leyton Summors, an Elvis impersonator from Manchester, climbed a stepladder in the rhinestone jumpsuit he saves for special occasions to hammer the "For Sale" sign onto the premises' outside wall.

Hackney council said yesterday that if Mr Shaw continued to fail to pay the bill, he would

be taken to court and meanstested by magistrates. Further non-payment could even result in a 90-day jail sentence.

A spokesman said: "No other company in Hackney has had four arrangements to pay rates and then broken them. We have very little trouble with businesses here but he is in a world of his own."

Only the premises are for sale as Mr Shaw intends to carry on the business from his shop in West London.
The freehold on the ground.

basement and upper floors of the Shoreditch property is priced at £395,000. It could be split with the ground floor and basement priced at £195,000 and the upper floors at 5235,000. Mr Shaw has yet to shut up

shop completely, and stepping inside Elvisly Yours it is still possible to buy Elvis replica sunglasses for £7.95, soap and



Leyton Summors, an Elvis impersonator from Manchester, climbed a ladder to hammer the for-sale sign to the wall

dish sets for £4.95 and a and the fashion designer Alex-1,000-piece Elvis jigsaw for

Mr Shaw, who has run the mail-order side of his business from the shop, also sells Elvis rapestries, silk jackets with Elvis logos and a collection of vintage magazines and post-

The area around the shop has changed considerably since Mr Shaw moved in in 1982. The singer Jarvis Cocker

ander McQueen, who live on Haberdasher Street and Curtain Road, are two of a group of stars whose presence is said to have helped to boost house

James Goff, a chartered surveyor for the estate agents Stir-ling Ackroyd, said: "The building is likely to become more Manhattan style than Memphis as it has planning permission to be converted into loft

flats. The ground floor may become a bar but it will be up to the owners to decide whether it will be Elvis-themed."

He added that the property was "sensibly priced and should sell quickly".

Mr Shaw said: "Around the world Hackney is known not for bad schools, crime and poverty but because it is the home of an Elvis Presley shrine called Elvisly Yours." Not for much longer.

CHANNEL 4 is facing a sub-stantial fine after admitting yesterday that a documentary

about young male prostitutes

contained scenes that were

faked. Men shown negotiat-

ing to pay for sex were part of

the production team or their

The channel has put an indefinite ban on giving more work to Maire Devine, the in-

dependent producer of the documentary, called Too Much Too Young Chickens.

But it stillfaces an investiga-

tion by the Independent Tele-

The commission recently Central Television,

which is owned by Carlton.

£2 million after it emerged that scenes in a drugs documentary. The Connection. were faked. Another Channel

4 documentary, Daddy's Girl. was pulled from the schedules

a day before transmission

when it was found that the

makers had been tricked by a

young couple who posed as

Channel 4 initially defend-

ed Too Much Too Young: Chickens and Ms Devine against allegations of fabrica-

ANZ

father and daughter.

vision Commission.

TOP OF THE PROPS

2 Mage Elvis mug 3 Flags

8 Diamante Elvis necklace and brooch
9 Bank of Scotland "Elvisly

tion, but reversed its stance after an internal investigation.

A Channel 4 spokesman said: "The film contained three

scenes that purported secretly

to record the activities of rent

boys and their clients on the

streets of Glasgow. They were

in fact constructed sequences using members of the produc-

tion team to act the part of the

but no procedures are proof

against deliberate and organ-

ised deception." A spokesman for the commission said:

"Viewers have a right to ex-

pect that anything they see on a factual programme has been properly vetted."

The Channel 4 investigation began after allegations of fabrication were made in a

series about television docu-

mentaries presented by the

Times columnist Matthew

Ms Devine's one-woman

production company. Base-

ment Productions, in Glas-

gow, was dissolved last year. She was unavailable for com-

Parris on Radio 5 Live.

ment yesterday.

Tim Gardam, Channel 4's director of programmes, said: Our procedures are robust.

Yours" credit card

10 Jigsaw puzzle

Channel 4 bans

producer who

faked scenes

By JOANNA BALE

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Lack of pride spells curtains for suburbia

THE tree-lined streets of suburbia are in danger of sinking into decay, with soulless wastelands replacing the archetype of urban family life, according to the Civic Trust.

While concern has been focused on improving the inner cities, similar problems have beset the suburbs, a report by the trust says. Boarded-up shops, poor public transport, trailic congestion and declining community facilities all point to their decline.

The blame is put partly on the very image of the suburbs, which are home to 60 per cent of the population: rows of iden-tical houses need to be punctu-ated by open space, the report

says.
Michael Gwilliam, director of the Civic Trust and a coauthor of the report, said: "While it is understandable that much discussion about urban renewal has been focused on inner cities, the lack of analysis and debate about suburban areas is disturbing.

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moducer who

take i seene

"Some parts of the suburbs need early attention if they are to avoid becoming tomorrow's

Mr Gwilliam said that sig-nificant improvements to suburban life could be achieved without enormous public investment. Simply changing bus routes and timetables, so that people could go where they wanted when they wanted, would reduce traffic congestion. Bus stops should also

Friendly bombs needed to blast

away soulless wastelands,

Alexandra Frean reports

be repositioned to locations that better suited passengers. He also advocated the construction of more houses or flats with views across "green lakes" of open land.

Corinne Swaine, co-author of the report, said that drastic "suburban surgery", such as demolition and rebuilding. was not necessary to achieve suburban regeneration. Far more important, she argued. was encouraging greater com-munity participation in the way that suburbs were run and built.

"If you can get people's pride back into the area through persuading them to get more involved with community projects, then this will act as a catalyst for selfimprovement. People will do more DIY and more improvements on the housing stock,"

The report is based on an analysis of suburbs in North Bristol, Redbridge in East Lon-don, West Northfield in Bir-

mingham, and North Tyne-side. The authors say, however, that their findings could apply to most suburban areas in England.

The report says that "suburban areas can provide a monotonous physical environment with a lack of distinctive character, particularly where the centre is not based on a historic core".

It recommends more mixed land use, the transformation of empty shops into homes and greater community involvement in planning deci-

It suggests the creation of "urban parishes", modelled on rural parishes, with powers to raise a modest parish rate to be spent on community projects. A national communichest should also be established, it says, to support community development with money from the National Lot-

tery's New Opportunity Fund. The suburbs grew as a result of a middle-class rejection of inner-city living. The aspiration to an arcadian, semidetached lifestyle was strong in the interwar years.

The report argues, however, that, by their very nature, suburbs are inherently selfdestructive. Because they rely on employment in an adjoinng, but distinct, city or town. they are vulnerable to economic change, such as the closure of a factory. When this happens, the wealthiest residents tend to move out, leaving the poorest and most vulnerable groups behind.

High levels of car dependency and lack of pedestrian access, including subways that force pedestrians to walk several hundred metres to cross a road, reduce social contact.

The report says that, because they tend to have a relatively low population density, suburbs are ecologically unsustainable, too, consuming vast tracts of land and energy.

The report was produced jointly by the Civic Trust and Ove Arup and was funded by



The neighbourhood that fell apart

WHEN Ronald Hiatt arrived in Northfield as a seven-year-old in 1929 he found a village with two blacksmiths surrounded by fields and acres of private land belonging to the Cadbury family.

Seventy years later, sitting in the semi-detached house that he bought with his wife, Irene, in the 1950s, the social and physical landscape has changed. He has watched a village that merited mention in the Domesday Book become part of Birmingham suburbia, where tidy semis rub shoulders with crumbling council tower blocks.

In 1959 Mr Hiatt, a retired factory manager, could leave home without locking his back door, and milk and bread left on his doorster would be safe. Today he has an electronic alarm system and security lights mounted on the front of his bouse. His ighbours have been burgled twice in the past five years and his wife does not

Peter Foster talks to the residents of a 'leafy suburb'

social changes of the past 40 years have had a big impact on his quality of life. We were much safer when I was a young man. Today there are gangs of youngsters about and while most of them are okay, you can never be sure. Sometimes ten-vear-olds are out till late at night playing football outside the house but if you ask them to go they are full of vile language.

Mrs Hian, 64, said: "Women go out to work when they used to be at home looking af-

ter the kids, keeping an eye on the neighbourhood." Modern commercial pres-

sures have also changed sub-

urbs such as West Northfield. beech and cherry trees warn Two doors down from the Hichildren it is an offence under atts, Kathleen Beall, 78, says: the Highways Act for them to There used to be a ladies play near the residential road. hair-dresser, a family butcher, Once, adds Mrs Beall, the a grocer's and an ironmonger's which everyone used to but today it belongs to the go to. Now they're mostly Chinese and Indian take-aways speeding cars that use it as a Ten minutes' walk from the and people leave their cartons and wrappers all over the rows of neat inter-war hous-

place. People don't take the ing of the "leafy suburbs" are pride they used to." several 1970s tower blocks Cars. although the Longwhere unemployment reaches bridge Rover factory only a over 30 per cent. single-parent few miles down the road is families are the norm and resi-West Northfield's economic dents have security grills on lifeblood, are also blamed for downstairs windows. A car burns here every night, according to one resident. Brett Randepersonalising the area. Notices pinned to the copper

Wilding. 23. and their onemonth-old son have a very different view of West Northfield.

"This is Birmingham's Bei-rut," Mr Randall says. "This place is full of drug addicts and gangs. We get people knocking at the door wanting to sell drugs, or young lads of fering everything from TVs and videos to lawnmowers and power tools."

Mr Randall, a self-employed builder, and Ms Wilding, a care assistant at a nursing home, would move if they could afford it. They are in no doubt about what needs to be done to rescue the area: "They have got to knock it all down



The new suburbs offered an escape from the inner city

the Joseph Rowntree Foundalike to go out alone after dark. Mr Hiatt believes that the Introducing our exciting new Freestyle' Mortgage and a great rate.

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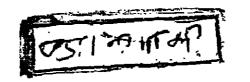


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The end is nigh for a chance of peace

The problem is clear; the solution

is not, reports Martin Fletcher

IT IS rare that Northern Ireland's security chiefs and republican leaders agree, but both say that Gerry Adams cannot deliver IRA disarmament, and if he tried he would big split that lethal organisation.

Instead of tiny solinter don

Instead of tiny splinter groups such as the Real and Continuity IRAs, the Province would suddenly face any number of well-armed, out-of-control republicans bent on resuming the armed struggle.

Unionists and Dublin do

Unionists and Dublin do not often concur either but David Trimble. Northern Ireland's First Minister, has convinced Bertie Ahern's Government of another stark fact. If he admits Sinn Fein to a new executive without first achieving IRA disarmament he will be ousted as the Ulster Unionist Party's leader and the Good Friday accord will be finished.

Friday accord will be finished.
The peace process is now facing its ultimate test. There are

just weeks left to resolve the impossible issue of decommissioning which has for five years been kicked down the road by dint of fudge and ambiguity. That road has finally run out, and nobody in London, Dublin or Belfast has any idea what to do

This political vacuum has been filled, as it always is in Northern Ireland, by an upsurge in violence. The IRA and its loyalist counterparts have engaged in a spate of brutal "punishment attacks" to keep control of their communities. Last week Earnon Collins, the IRA defector, was stabbed and bludgeoned to death by former colleagues. On Sunday Paddy Fox, an IRA dissenter, was abducted and beaten.

A lovalist splinter group called the Red Hand Defenders has mounted bomb attacks on half a dozen Roman Catholic homes in the past fortnight.



Graffiti on a wall in republican Andersontown, Belfast, reflects staunch opposition to decommissioning; Sinn Fein insists it is unnecessary anyway

On Wednesday night the Ulster Volunteer Force claimed to have imported a fresh consignment of weapons including an anti-tank min

ing an anti-tank gun.

The resurgence of punishment attacks has greatly complicated efforts to break the decommissioning deadlock. Unionists and Conservatives have seized on them as evidence that republicans remain wedded to violence and are more adamant than ever that the republican movement

prove its conversion to exclusively democratic means by disarming. The attacks have thus made compromise by Mr Trimble still more impossible.

Trimble still more impossible.
They have also shredded Westminster's valuable bipartisan consensus on Northern Ireland, the Tories demanding that all prisoner releases be halted.
The climactic act of the

The climactic act of the peace process begins on February 15 when the Assembly approves the structure of the

12-member executive. The Government hopes to transfer power to the executive on March 10 but without IRA disarmament Mr Trimble will instead order a government review of Sinn Fein's compliance with the accord's insistence on "exclusively peaceful and democratic means" and "opposition to any use or threat of force".

If the executive is not formed by May 22 Ireland's referendum vote to abolish its constitutional claim to Northern Ireland lapses. By early summer the Province would be plunged into a new marching season when inflamed sectari-

point the IRA's hardmen would give up on politics.

Mr Adams and Mr Trimble have led their respective followers as far as they can towards the centre ground but even after 17 months of direct contact the fundamental problems re-

an tensions render political

progress impossible. At some

main the inability to under-

Sinn Fein leaders insist that actual decommissioning is impossible and the accord does not demand it. They say the IRA considers it a demand for surrender and an attempt to "criminalise" republicans by implying they alone were responsible for 30 years of horror. They believe that if the accord is implemented, decommissioning will eventually become either possible or irrelevant and they cannot believe the process will collapse over the difference between guns being destroyed or lying silent.

he has done everything required of him by the accord.

Everyone insists the process has come far too far to fail now but nobody can see how to save it.

Leading article and

it will recover all stolen weapons

By Martin Fletcher Chief Ireland Correspondent

THE IRA pledged yesterday to continue its search for weapons stolen by defectors until it had recovered them all.

In a statement it said that a "small amount of weaponry" had been "secretly misappropriated" by those who had left to form the Real IRA in late 1997. These defectors included its Quartermaster General, the man in charge of the IRA's arsenal, and several members of its "engineering" or bombmaking department.

making department.

The IRA said it had recovered "some but not all of the stolen weapons" and would carry on. It also claimed that some of the defectors had visited the homes of IRA supporters "in an attempt to derail our investigations". Stealing weapons is an offence punishable by death under IRA rules.

Some republican sources suggested that it was IRA members taking part in the hunt who abducted Paddy Fox, a prominent dissident, on Sunday. Fox. a convicted bomber who opposes Sinn Fein's peace strategy, told Channel 4 last night that he was beaten unconscious and woke up several hours later in a forest.

Ken Maginnis, the Ulster Unionist Party's security spokesman, suggested that the IRA was trying to distance itself from attacks carried out with known IRA weapons.

Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and Andrew Mackay, her Tory, shadow, both said that the IRA statement reinforced the case for the decommissioning of all paramilitary weapons. In her search for an end to the deadlock, Dr Mowlam has had meetings this week with Tony Blair and Bertie Ahern, the Irish Prime Minister. She will also meet all the Province's

Charges fell for lack of evidence

By AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

MURDER charges against four men who killed an Irish policeman in an IRA raid on a post office van were dropped because of insufficient evidence, a court in Dublin was

told yesterday.

The state made the admission after public outrage in Ireland that the four, who include the Brixton prison escaper Pearse McCauley, had admitted a lesser charge of manslaughter. Edward Comyn, for the prosecution, said the state could not prove that the men intended to kill Detective Jerry McCabe during the raid in Adare, Co Limerick, in June 1996. McCauley said through his barrister yesterday that he "deeply regretted" the officer's death.

the officer's death.

The decision to drop murder charges led to accusations from Opposition politicians that the Government was pandering to the IRA to ensure the continuation of the peace process. However, Bertie Ahern, the Prime Minister, said that the judiciary was acting independently and that the men would not be granted early release under the terms

of the Good Friday agree-

Legal sources said one of the reasons the case fell apart was because witnesses were scared to give evidence against McCauley. 34, from Strabane, Co Tyrone, and Jeremiah Sheehy, 36, Michael O'Neill, 46, and Kevin Walsh, 42, from Co Limerick. Patrick Harty, a farmer, refused to testify and was jailed for contempt for 18 months. Two other patrices and backed out.

er witnesses also backed out.
Mr Comyn said that it had
not been possible to determine which of the gang killed
Mr McCabe, although police
believe it was not McCauley.
McCauley still faces possi-

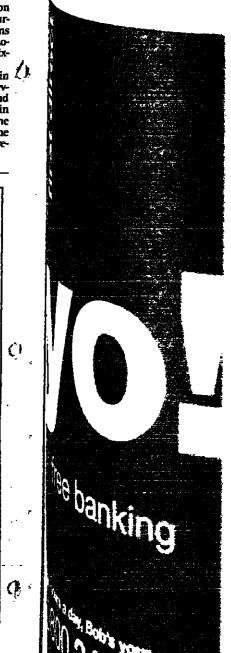
McCauley still faces possible extradition to England on charges of conspiracy to murder, possession of firearms and conspiracy to cause explosions. He escaped from Brixton prison in July 1991.

He was arrested in Dublin

ton prison in July 1991.

He was arrested in Dublin in April 1993 and jailed for seven years for having a gun and ammunition. He was freed in November 1995 as part of the early release scheme after the first 1RA ceasefire, but was rearrested as he left jail.





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Duchess makes Internet appeal for £15m garden

land is seeking £15 million in sponsorship to help create one of the most spectacular gardens in the world.

The Percy family plans to transform a derelict 12-acre walled garden in the grounds of its ancestral home at Alnwick Castle, in Northumberland. The duchess said yesterday that the proposed cost of the project, which has tripled in the 18 months since the idea germinated, was justified.

"The initial concept of the garden has totally changed. It has snowballed into a vast public project," she said. "We have given 40 acres of previously private ground and have committed 13 million. We have spent £750,000 reaching this point, and we are now ready to look for sponsorship.

"We cannot take one penny from this garden. but we will have had a unique opgoortunity of creating a garden ... which we hope will be one of the

The garden is being created by the and-son partnership of Jacques and Peter Wirtz,

and Peter Wirtz, which designed The walled garden as er, given £300,000 the £25 million repainted in the 1920s as the development of grounds at the Tuileries, the former royal palace in Paris.

Paul Robbrecht will design a pavilion that will include a that up to 75 more could be crefunction room, shop and restated in the Alnwick area and taurant.

Up to 26 acres will be used

Fund has, howev-which has a the first has a strength has a the first has a strength has a strength

Up to 26 acres will be used for formal gardens, with the remainder to be landscaped. The site is close the the castle. which has been home to the Percy family, whose ancestors include Harry Hotspur, since 1309. The original walled gar-

Paul Wilkinson on plan to transform Alnwick Castle

was built in 1750 by the 1st Duke and his wife. By 1856 the entire walled garden was planted, lawned and landscaped.

The 4th Duke opened it to the public, but by the end of the First World War it was starting to decline and during the Second World War was turned over to growing food in the Dig For Victory campaign. In 1953 the once impressive glasshouse was dismantled and the eastern end of the garden became a tree nursery.

The duchess's plan is to build a new garden using features of the original. Pools and fountains will remain a major feature, along with waterfalls and miniature canals among pavilions and hedges of rose-

bushes. It is expectpublic by 2001.

The duchess said that she had not applied for National Lottery money because she had been advised that it was a "creation, not a restoration project". The European Region-Development

200 across the region.
Yesterday the duchess turned to the Internet to appeal for donations to help her restore the site to its former glo-

ry. Launching the website, The Invisible Gardens (www. alnwickgarden.com), she said: This is to be a classical garing garden designers in the world. "We have searched worldwide for experts in their field

and we are creating a place of beauty and learning for the benefit of everyone and something of which the North East can be proud."

The idea of developing the garden came to the duchess, Jane Percy, soon after her husband, Ralph, the 12th Duke, in-herited the title in 1995 on the how beautiful it could be." death of his brother, Harry, who was worth an estimated It will include a garden of

the senses for the visually im-£250 million. Until then they had lived with their four chilpaired, a garden of poisonous plants, a fruit and vegetable aldren managing the family's lotment, a grass labyrinth and vast estates. a water garden with dancing The duchess said: "I knew

the old garden well. It was ne-Peter Wirtz said: "It will glected and sad and in the take a few months to work out process of being turned into a this project technically. The car park. But even then, standcomplexity of integrating the ing at the top or bottom of the water technology and the chal-

construction in harmony with the seasons will certainly cause some headaches in the future," he said.

The Prince of Wales is patron of the scheme. When the proposal was first unveiled in June 1997 he said: "In seeking to recapture the lost world of this great garden, and sharing with others, the present Duchess of Northumberland is taking up once more the innovative ideas so brilliantly demonstrated in previous generations."



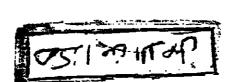
The Duchess of Northumberland on the site of old Italian walled garden yesterday

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WILLIAM HAGUE promised yesterday to use the tax and benefit system to support the institution of marriage.

As he launched National

Marriage Week with his wife Ffion at his side, the Tory leader said that a party committee under Peter Lilley, his deputy. had been formed to put the traditional family at the heart of policymaking.

Casting aside the caution that has marked Conservative family policy since the collapse of the back-to-basics campaign. Mr Hague said that politicans could not ignore the impact which the breakdown of marriage had on society.

"No-one who cares about the future of this country can ignore the importance of marriage and the family to the so-

firmed as Britain's longest-

George had urged the USA

Traditional

family at heart of policymaking report Philip

Webster and

Mark Henderson cial fabric of our nation or the pressures which so many families face today." he said.

of Nations. In Russia, Lenin's

ness Book of Records.

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our society. We are right to be-He confirmed that the Tolieve in it." The decision by Tory strateries are considering a plan to gists to concentrate on marallow couples to transfer unriage comes after they found used tax allowances to each other if one of them is not that the issue registered strongworking and looking after a ly with voters during their Lischild or invalid relative. And tening to Britain exercise.

Mr Hague also unveiled the secrets of a successful marriage as he sees them - sharing everything and keeping Sundays sacred, at least as far

for eroding the married cou-

ples' allowance. Its abolition

would mean "an end to the last reocognition of marriage

"Our society has found

something which lowers the

crime rate, increases people's

chances of finding work, im-

proves their education and con-

tributes to their happiness and

marriage. It is perhaps the

most important institution in

That institution is called

in the tax system".

well-being.

as Sir David Frost will let him. We've only recently celebrated our first wedding anniversary, so I don't claim to be a great expert on marriage," Mr Hague said. "But we've found that little things have helped to make this the happiest year of

our lives. "We have certainly discovered that it's important to make time for each other. Both Flion and I have demanding



William Hague and his wife Ffion launching National Marriage Week at Westminster Register Office yesterday

jobs that take us around the country but we try to have Sundays to ourselves, at least as far as David Frost Jonathan Dimbleby and John Humphrys permit it."

He said they had also found it crucial to be open about their feelings - "not a bad lesson for any politician". "Whether we've had a good day or a bad day we don't bottle things up. And if we disagree about something we talk

about it." Arriving at the

launch at Westminster Register Office - where both Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr tied the knot — the Hagues found themselves guests of honour at a mock wedding re-

And in the best traditions of an English wedding, it was the groom who did all the talking. Mrs Hague remained tight lipped about her experiences

Mr Hague said his wedding "underneath the office" in the

ual pornography -- would not make him flinch from strong crypt of the Palace of Westminster "may not sound very romantic". Nevertheless, it was public support for marriage. he said. "Politicians of all parthe most inspiring and nerveties have been afraid to take a racking occasion he had experienced there. "Prime Minisstand on marriage because they are terrified that the next ter's Questions is a doddle compared with getting marday the tabloids will be full of ried in the Palace, particularly stories about colleagues who have been caught doing some-thing inconsistent with maras I had to learn my vows in Welsh," he said. riage . . . All of us must be able

to speak out."

Political sex scandals — such as the fall of Tom Spencer, the married Tory MEP

lic policy on the euro

is increasingly uncon-

as if it is a board of examin-

ers assessing whether Gor-

don Brown's five tests have

been met, before deciding in

the national interest"

whether or not Britain joins

at some unspecified date

third of benefit claims' By JILL SHERMAN CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT MORE than a third of Family

Fraud 'in

Credit payments in an official study involved actual or possible fraud, it was disclosed yesterday.
The findings had been sup-

pressed by the Government but were published by the Commons Social Security Select Committee. They raised fears that the new Working Family Tax Credit could be open to even wider abuse.

Frank Field, the former Minister for Welfare Reform, gave warning last year that employ-ers and staff could get together to defraud the new system.

Family Credit is a meanstested benefit which goes to working families on low incomes but is paid direct to the mother by girocheque. It is to be replaced by Working Family Tax Credit in October.

The study showed that 123 out of 326 cases involved possible or actual fraud. Confirmed fraud was found in 32 cases and low or high suspicion of fraud in 91. Most were related to false declaration of earnings, but others involved those wrongly claiming as a single parent, undeclared capital or other income, and children not in full-time education.

The Government warned the committee that it never intended to release the findings because the sample was too small and not statisti-

married living pair after 78 Communist forces were drivyears and 190 days togething out foreign troops and London's first police cars er. Michael and Catherine were replacing horses. Mr Brady, 98, and his 104-year-Brady, who tied the knot on July 29, 1920, said the secret was always to put their family old wife now share a room in first. The day before they a nursing home in Middleswalked down the arsis of St brough. Their record-break-Edmund's Roman Catholic ing marriage was authenticat-Church in Mannhester, Lloyd ed yesterday by the Guin-

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There's a Great Deal going on

met by then.

The implicit assuraption is that the rest of Europe will wait patiently. In his interliest. But they also expect it view with The Times on will not be held much later Tuesday. Stephen Byers reitthan that. Some foreign companies erated this line - presumainvesting in Britain have bly in order not to get ahead of the current Treasury line. told the Government that their plans assume (depend He even suggested that Labour could go into the next election with this policy. on) such a firm timetable. In without stating its preference, since he doubted that the tests would have been

Privately. neither the Blair circle nor Robin Cook and the Foreign Office believe that Labour can cam-paign in the election without declaring its own view. The five tests are seen as subjective measures which can be reinterpreted when neces-

sary.

The only test that matters is convergence of interest rates. The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee is, at present, guided by a domestic inflation target rather than the ex-change rate, while entry into a single currency requires a prior period of stability between sterling and the euro. However, yesterday's unex-

pectedly large cut in interest rates means that the gap between British and euro short rates has narrowed from more than 4 to 2.5 percentage points, and the markets

Short-changed by our

approach to the euro

expect a further narrowing. The key issue is timur Business, the markets and other European governments accept that a referendum is unlikely to be held until autumn 2001 at the ear-

public, the talk from the !!

euro-participants is of understanding regret that Britain is not on board now, That was the tone of a fascinating talk on Wednesday by Gunter Verheugen, Germany's Minister for Europe, to the Centre for European Re-form, which has rapidly established itself as a leading think-tank on EU issues. Displaying a breadth and depth that few British minis-ters could match. Herr Verheugen outlined Germany's priorities on reform of the EU Budget, including the

British rebate, (where there

is very tight deadline) and on development of a common foreign and defence approach (on which he was op-timistic). He exposed the idiocy of the tabloids' "Red Oskar" demonology of Herr Laioniaine over taxes ployment policy. Herr Verheugen's refusal

to acknowledge that staying out might hurt Britain was described by one eminent listener as "diplomatic polite-ness". Any public attempt to urge a target date, or warn of the consequences of delay, could, of course, be counter-productive. However, Germany and other governments are assuming - and have received private signals from the Blair Government - that sterling will join in three years or so.

hat will not happen without public preparations now. Even if setting a firm target date might cause market upheavals, the Government should step up its commitment — to win over public opinion and to convince business to get ready for conversion (especially given the worries of banks over the time needed).

Just publishing a National Changeover Plan, as will happen later this month, is not enough without an explicit change in ministers' language. The Blair and Brown offices are still discussing the tone to take. Don't expect a big shift. The drift will continue.

Davies in comeback campaign

By VALERIE ELLIOTT

RON DAVIES last night called on the Covernment to allow more powers to be trans-ferred to the Welsh assembly. The former Welsh Secretary also demanded that the Weish Labour Party should be given more freedom.

The assembly has no responsibility for law and order, broadcasting, nor any power to raise its own revenues. Mr Davies's lecture last night to 500 people in Cardiff was the most, significant step of a planned political comeback. Friends believe he could be the assémbly's First Secretary.

However, Labour's strategy is/ to put forward Alun Michael, the current Welsh Secretary, as the sound choice for leader of the Welsh Labour Party — despite popular sup-port for Rhodri Morgan, the Cardiff West MP — and for First Secretary. A firm steer in the leadership campaign will be given tomorrow when a bal-lot of 60.000 Unison members is declared. A win for Mr Michael will almost certainly assure him victory.

Base Rate

Bank of Scotland announces that with effect from Thursday 4th February 1999 its Base Rate has been decreased from 6.00% per annum to 5.50% per annum.

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ser lost issues

Revolt fades as Radio 4 wins back listeners

BY RAYMOND SNDDD MEDIA EDITOR

PRESSURE on James Boyle, the Controller of Radio 4, eased vesterday as official listening figures bounced back from the sharp fall that followed his shake-up in programmes. He had promised to resign if audiences continued to plummet amid anger over

his changes. Listeners are also staying tuned for longer, which Mr Boyle said he was trying to achieve with the schedules introduced last April. In the three months up to Christmas, the average Radio 4 listerer tuned in for almost 11 hours a week: the highest for more than three years.

The station had 260,000 more listeners, winning back most of the audience lost in the previous quarter, with the extended Today programme performing well. Early afternoon dramas are attracting larger audiences, as is Home Truths on Saturday mornings and the Sunday morning schedule. The numbers listening to Radio 4 at least once a week reached 7.9 million.

The improved performance of Radio 4, and Zoe Ball's success in attracting 500,000 new listeners in her first quarter as sole presenter of the Radio 1 breakfast show, signalled a



regular weekly listenership of

just over 3 million, a drop of 4

per cent. Radio 5 Live has had

its strongest year, with 5.2 mil-

lion listeners. Radio 2 held its

position and Radio 3 attracted 140,000 more. Classic FM hit

Rachell Fox, of the Commer-

cial Radio Companies Associa-

tion, said that commercial

radio had "maintained its

share of listening lead over the

BBC, despite dropping back

slightly".

Despite individual stations

gaining, the number of hours of listening fell. The BBC

dropped from 405 million hours to 402 million, with lo-

cal services losing audience

share, and the commercial to-

tal dropped from 422 million

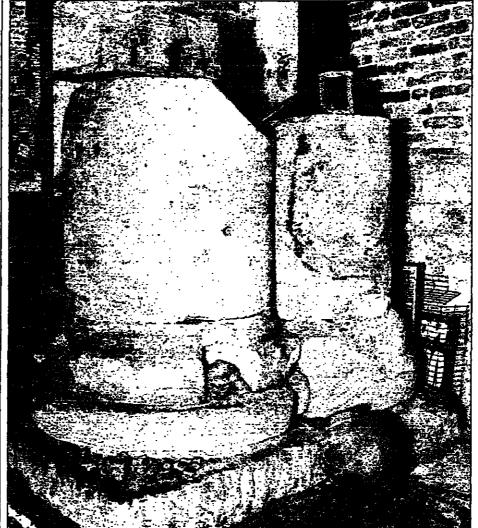
a new peak of 5.1 million.

Boyle had promised to quit if ratings fell again

BBC fightback against the commercial sector. Ball took her total audience to 5.5 million as the BBC share of radio listening rose to 48.5 per cent against commercial radio's 49.3 per cent. The gap has narrowed for two quarters.

Jenny Abramsky, the Director of BBC Radio, said that yesterday's figures showed "BBC Radio is really in touch with its listeners. I am particularly l pleased to see that the Radio 4 audience is settling down to the new schedule.

On Virgin, Chris Evans also increased his breakfast audience by 2.6 per cent and had a total of 2.54 million. Unlike Radio I, which increased its regulat listeners to 11.4 million, the highest figure for two years.



Des res with a slice of history

tle different from any other Victorian terraced town house but the buyer of 29 Bailgate in Lincoln will get a slice of Roman history as well as a threestorey family home.

The house boasts four giant pillars, part of the remains of a first-century Roman civic centre, as well as a section of road believed to have been built between York and London by the Romans after they arrived in the area in about

The house's owners, Jo Dunn and her sister. Suzie Pinder-Smith, have continued their parents' tradition of allowing the public to visit the ruins, yet the house is neither listed nor protected by law. It is expected to fetch more than The ruins were discovered

during the Victorian era but the sisters' house, which was builtin 1879, is the only one in the Bailgate area that has had them incorporated into its design. Mrs Dunn said that the cellar had also yielded a Roman urn and other artefacts. which had been studied by

Mick Jones, the director of Lincoln's archaeological unit.



fetch more than £200,000

said that the pillars would have formed part of "a large public building, which would have been very much the focal point of the town in Roman times — the equivalent of the town hall if you like - but it would have included a temple, shops and offices".

The Romans considered the building so prestigious that they shipped in sandstone for the building from Derbyshire shire limestone, he said.

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20012-000

5,000 seek £25m over lost jobs

BY RUSSELL JENKINS, NORTH WEST CORRESPONDENT

workers, who learnt they were to lose their jobs as they lis-tened to breakfast radio, took their fight for £25 million compensation to an employment tribunal yesterday in a ground-breaking action.

They told the hearing in Liverpool that they had been left in the dark by their employers, Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance, about plans to merge the two companies and cut staff.

The £5.4 billion merger, which created Britain's biggest insurance company. caught the City on the hop. It also took staff on Merseyside by surprise. Many first heard the news of up to 5,000 job losses during an interview on the Radio 4 Today programme on May 3, 1996.

The Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union claims that redundancy num-

THOUSANDS of insurance bers were predetermined, rendering the eventual consultation with unions meaningless. The union, which is acting on behalf of the 5,000 who lost their jobs, claims that their employers breached European employment law. It is seeking three months pay for every member made redundant.

Martin McKeown, a union officer, told the tribunal: "To my knowledge, no representa-tive of MSF was consulted about the merger or possible redundancies prior to May 3."

Simon Gorion, counsel for the union, said the importance of the interview broadcast during the Today programme was formally to identify the number of job losses before the unions had been informed.

The union claims Royal and Sun Alliance breached the European Directive on Consultation and Collective Redundancies.

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The Roman pillars once supported a public building complete with shops and temple

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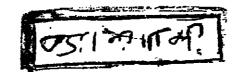
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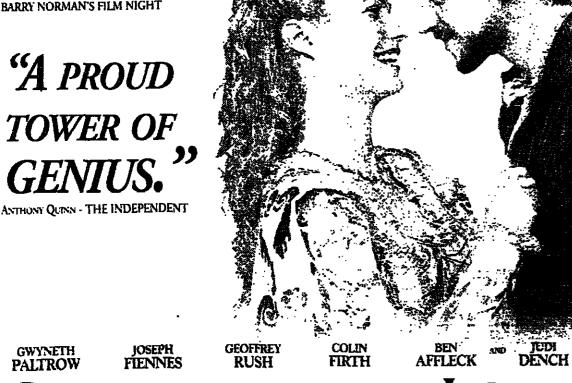
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Heng's view in Lianhe Zaobao of Singapore on the bribery scandal in the international Olympics movement

Korea's IOC chief accused of bribery

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

ful Korean Olympic official tipped as a possible successor to Juan Antonio Samaranch as President of the International Olympic Committee, came under fresh pressure to step down last night after it was revealed that Salt Lake City had got his son a job.

Mr Kim, president of the South Korean Olympic Comminee and a leading member of the IOC since 1986, could become the latest casualty of the mushrooming corruption scandal that has forced four IOC members to quit and left five others facing expulsion for allegedly accepting bribes in exchange for votes.

David Simmons, the former City satellite broadcasting concern named Keystone Communications, disclosed vesterday that he had been asked by bid committee officials to hire Mr Kim's son, Jung Hoon, known as John. He told the USA Today newspaper that the officials had made clear that the job applicant was "Dr Kim's

John Kim was accordingly

given a job at the company's offices in New York in the early 1990s, as Salt Lake City campaigned to become the venue for the 2002 Winter Games. Mr Simmons said that the bid committee had reimbursed Keystone for an unspecified portion of his salary.

The elder Mr Kim has attracted controversy because of the concert schedule of his daughter, the pianist Kim He Jung. She played solo with the



Kim Un Yong: Salt Lake City gave his son a job

Melbourne Orchestra when the Australian city was vying for the Olympics in 1990; appeared as the soloist at Atlanta's Olympic Arts Festival during the 1996 Games; and was paid \$5,000 (E3,000) to play two concerts with Salt Lake City's Utah Symphony Orchestra.

Utah Symphony's former music director has said she was hired "purely on merits". but he listened to her tape only after it was passed to the orchestra by local Olympic officials. A member of Melbourne's bid committee was quoted as saying: "I think she probably tinkled in the C division rather than the A."

During a stay in the South Kim insisted yesterday that a distinction should be drawn between corruption and personal relations. "I detest outright bribery or corruption," he said. "But they have to be distinguised from human relations or professional business relations." He added: "I have a long, bright future spread be-

Mr Simmons, who now

Herb's view in Norway's Dagningen Lillehammer of the fight by Juan Antonio Samaranch to stay in office company in Salt Lake City. said that he had disclosed his relationship with John Kim to

investigators from both the

IOC and Salt Lake City Organ-

ising Committee. He said the

younger Mr Kim appeared qualified for the job and had helped him to do business on two trips to Asia. Games. A Japanese newspaper has alleged that in 1964 Sapporo paid off four IOC offi-cials with 1 million yen each. then worth \$2,800. The city

the 1972 Winter Games. On Wednesday, Japanese Olympic officials began an inquiry into possible misconduct during Nagano's successful campaign to win the 1998 Winter Games. The IOC has asked all bidding cities for the Games from 1996 and 2000 to

Drugs testing, page 52

Sydney storm over Baywatch

AUSTRALIANS were choking over their XXXXs last night after the producers of Baywatch appealed for financial help to move the world's most-watched television programme to Sydney.

Most Australians don't like

"bludgers" (Australian for scroungers) at the best of imes, but especially not when they are millionaire Californians. There were already mixed feelings among the good people of Avalon — an exquisite beach suburb - when David Hasselhoff and his bevy of beauties flew in to shoot several episodes last year. But the inclusion of several Aussies out of the 500 girls who applied for a role soothed feelings.

Executive producer Greg Bonann maintains: "Just because we are the world's most popular show doesn't mean we're the world's wealthiest

show." Bonann claims that it costs a lot of money to ship over four powerboats, along with the necessary wardrobe and make-up facilities.

Avalon residents, who are not short of a million themselves, can spot poverty when they have to. "For Haywatch to say they are not a wealthy show is ridiculous," said a member of Avaion's anti-Baywatch brigade. They are us-

ing Avalon to get themselves back in the top spot at below-American prices.

Bonann says Baywatch will more than repay Australia for any belp that it receives, predicting that the Sydney economy would benefit to the time of Aus\$18 million (£6.9 million) a year. It would, he said, put Avalon on the tourist map for millions of Baywatch fans every year. But putting the

what many Avalonians don't want. When they were here last year they took over the place," said Roger Maynard, a local. "They had 12 vans and they stopped people from do-

A letter to the editor in a local paper attempted to put the likes of Mr Maynard in his place. "Had the good folk of Avalon protested against Baywatch on the basis of too much cosmetic surgery, the overwhelming pungency of peroxide and thin story lines and thinner actors, well then. maybe, just maybe, they have an argument.

But they haven't. They don't want tourists messing up their car park or kicking sand on their towels as they come to take a look at Holly-

wood by the sea." Bonann's expression of love for the harbour city rings a little hollow when he says that, if Sydney won't have Baywatch, he will go to Mexico.

Spring in Paris & Provence

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and through Provence to Marscille. **TINERARY IN BRIEF**

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Jordan officials [censor news of King's illness

FOR 48 hours before King Hussein left the US after the failure of his bone marrow transplant yesterday. Jordan's 4.6 million people had been fed misleading official accounts about his condition.

Only a few hours before news of his imminent return spread by word of mouth and jammed international - telephone lines, the owner of an Amman bookshop said: "They tell us nothing. The only thing that anyone in Jordan has been talking about is the King's health, and it is the one thing about which none of us knew the real truth."

A former Jordanian diplomat said: "The people are going mad. They are switching from one foreign station to another to try to find out what has happened, and then they are ringing each other to ex-change the latest news. They

are sad and they are worried." Even before the dramatic announcement of the failure of the operation using bone marrow donated by Princess Basma, the King's 48-year-old sister. Jordan's forces had been placed on special alert in case of attempts by Iraq or Syria to foment instability. Hours before news emerged

are going

mad. They

are sad and

they are

worried?

from the Mayo clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, rumours had spread that the King might be near death. Relatives were reported to have flown to the United States to be by his bedside.

The main thing that we hope and pray now is that he will get home alive." said one

Jordanian source. "We all know he nearly died in the plane taking him to the US last week, which was why the Israelis reported wrongly that

he was already dead." in Amman's mass-circulation daily Al-Rai, the columnist Sultan Hattab reflected the feelings of his countrymen. "We are praying to God to save his Majesty ... and to end the state of arotiety and confusion gripping us since he returned to the US for re-

newed treatment." The public jitters could turn to panic despite efforts by palpression of a smooth transfer of power to the new Crown Prince Abdullah, 37, Hussein's eldest son by his British-born wife. Princess Muna.

Anxiety has been increased by a clumsy purge of the local media. Yesterday it was anPublic's hunger for facts left

unsatisfied. Christopher Walker writes

nounced that the editor of Al-Majd — which gave the first full account of the deposing of Hassan, the King's younger brother, as Crown - had been served a 15-day detention order by a court for violating the draconian national press code.

Al-Majd reported that the

Oxford-educated Prince Hassan, 51, had laid down his revolver before the King and asked to be shot if Hussein thought he was a traitor. These details were reported in yesterday's editions of The Times, which has been twice barred from sale in the Hashemite kingdom over the past week because of reports about palace intrigues and the King's health. Copies of The Sunday Times and The Sunday Telegraph, normally on sale, have also been banned.

The offending papers are appar-The people ently held up by censors at the airport who check all stories relating to Jordan bereleasing Rimawi, Majd, an Arab ly widely read in Amman, was charged with "insulting the mon-

arch, publishing false information about the Prime Minister and members of the Government and attacks on the security service", according to Iyad Kattan, the Information Ministry chief. Before his latest disclosures,

Mr Rimawi had called in pre-vious issues for the Prime Minister and Cabinet to resign. He is due to be freed on bail.

As part of the same purge, designed to restrict the circulation of information about the palace crisis, the board chairman of the popular Amman daily. Al-Arab al-Yawm, sacked two senior editors this week after they published unofficial reports on changes in the succession. The two, Taher al-Adwwan and Saleh al-Kallab, said that they had been given

Many opposition politicians see the moves as an attempt by the new regent to ensure that details of palace intrigues are kept out of the public eye and that the Jordanian media pub-lishes and broadcasts only official accounts of events.

But Western diplomats said such censorship only created rumours. Many Jordanians have access to foreign reports via the Internet and radio. Ramzi Khoury, editor-in-

chief of the new English-lan-guage Arab Daily. wrote: "It is common in this part of the world that had news is not communicated to all family members to spare them worry. This, along with a popular suspicion of government statements on sensitive issues, has opened the door to rumours. inflicting a higher toll on the people than the truth would achieve. As for those who believe the truth is unnecessary at this time, what they are saying - probably without knowing — is that such truth is a destabilising factor."



Posters showing a fit and healthy King Hussein and his wife, Queen Noor, adorn the walls in Amman, the Jordanian capital, yesterday

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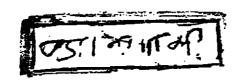
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Clintons condemn Chelsea cover story

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

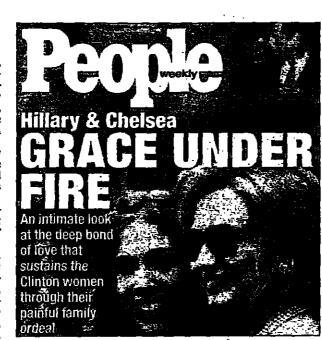
EVER the protective parents. Bill and Hillary Clinton yesterday denounced People magazine for running a cover story about how their daughter, Chelsea, is coping with the President's affair with Monica

They said that the glossy weekly had chosen to print the article despite their personal appeals about Miss Clinton's privacy and security.

In their statement, the Clintons said they "deeply regret and are profoundly saddened" by the magazine's decision. Until now Miss Clinton, 18.

has been largely shielded from stream American media, thanks to an informal agreement between the White House and editors. People. published by Time Warner, went ahead with its cover story because Miss Clinton was an eyewitness to history and a valid journalistic subject, said Carol Wallace, the magazine's managing editor.

A photo of a smiling Mrs Clinton and daughter adorns the magazine which goes on sale today. The article, head-



The People story breaks an informal press agreement

scribed as an "intimate look at the deep bond of love that sustains the Clinton women through this painful family

It says they are both strong and have turned to each other for strength and solace during

They exchange letters and frequent late-night phone calls. Publicly the two have stood by Mr Clinton, despite their personal disappointment about his admission last Au-

gust that he had misled them about the affair.

Senate loses appetite for live Lewinsky testimony

THE impeachment trial of President Clinton moved into its final phase last night with the prosecution's hopes of a live appearance by Monica Lewinsky fading as senators searched for a way to conclude the proceedings swiftly.

As the Senate prepared to decide whether to call Ms Lewinksy and other witnesses in person. Trent Lott, the Majority Leader, said that the appetite for such a spectacle had gone. "It does not appear that nesses," he said after a meeting with fellow Republicans.

The 100 senators resumed sitting as a court after a break this week while Ms Lewinsky. Vernon Jordan, Mr Clinton's

confidant, and Sidney Blumenthal, his senior aide, gave depositions in private. The Senate was last night weight ing whether tapes of the depositions should be played in the Senate as part of concluding

The prosecutors from the House were pressing for all three witnesses to be called to the well of the Senate, or failing that, Ms Lewinsky alone. If both requests were rejected by the Senate, as looked likeeotapes to be played, either in their entirety or in parts.

Mr Lott said he hoped closing arguments would be pre-sented early next week and be followed by a debate by sena-

tors who have been silent onlookers so far. Acutely aware of Americans' exasperation at the drawn-out trial, he said it was his wish that senators be brief; the Gettysburg Address was only a little more than two minutes long, he said

pointedly. His timetable could still be disrupted by moves by Republicans to draft a "finding of motion. Under this plan, which has been dubbed "convict, but not evict". Mr providing "false and misleading testimony" to a Grand Jury and having "wrongfully engaged in conduct to delay the discovery and cover up the existence of evidence".

private pain. Though she reads news reports to keep up with the impeachment trial, she does not talk about the scandal even to her closest friends, the magazine said. strength," says Nancy Snyder man, an old friend of Mrs Clin-

ton. "She's been bred for it." But the scandal has left Miss Clinton "deeply shaken". according to Mr Clinton's half-brother, Roger, in an earlier interview with Paris-

In defending the decision to publish. Ms Wallace said: There is a great deal of admiration for this mother-daugh ter relationship. Over the years we have written about the Clinton family in good times and bad. Cheisea is nearly 19 years old and a poised

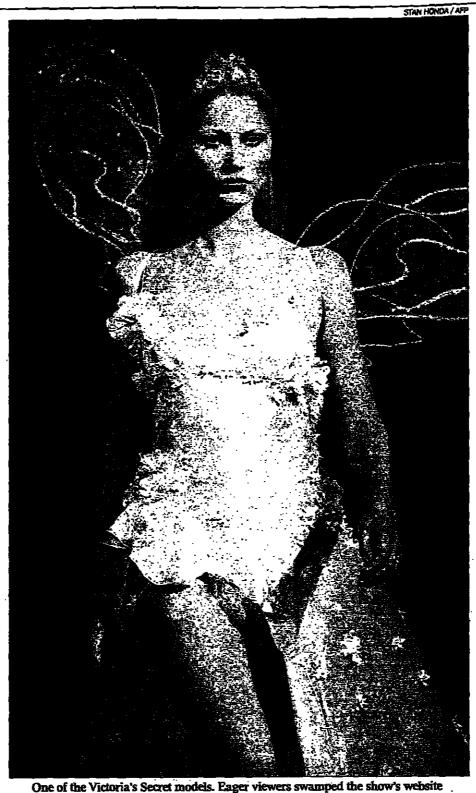
Miss Clinton very deliberately held the hands of both her parents as they walked, stony faced, to the presidential helicopter the day after his Lewinsky confession. She went with her father to church when Mrs Clinton was said to be too angry to go.

Last autumn there were tabloid reports, ignored by the Clintons, that she was still having difficulty coping with her father's affair and had broken up with her boyfriend. She also had treatment for stomach pains in a clinic at Stanford University in California where she is a student.

The Clintons have in the past expressed gratitude for the media's restraint in having allowed Miss Clinton the privacy that "any young person needs and deserves", noting that she had not taken on a public role other than as "an integral part of our family"

The couple have fiercely guarded her privacy throughout their time in Washington and earlier in Arkansas when

he was Governor. Their fear now is that with Miss Clinton's veil of privacy having been pierced by Peo-3.2 million, the way will be open for greatly increased cov-erage of her. However, the Clintons' pre-emptive blast against People is likely to give



Internet lingerie proves a letdown

By Damian Whitworth

AFTER so much fevered anticipation, it was unsurprising that the event itself was a bit of a letdown.

A lingerie firm jammed its website by showing a video relay from its fashion show in what was billed as the biggest live event on the Internet. But many of those who logged on did not even get a peek, and those who did found limb and bothered about.

Victoria's Secret, famous for its advertisements featuring scantily clad models aimed at wooing male customers to buy something for their wives and girlfriends. had hyped its show like none other. It was trailed by the appearance of heaving bosoms and sultry pouts in the television commercial breaks during Sunday's Superbowl.

The firm — one of the first to advertise on a big scale on the Internet in this way - said yesterday that millions had logged on for the show.

It had planned for up to 500,000 people to be able to tune in at any one time, but had yet to release full figures yesterday.

However, rather than sashaying down the catwalk, the models moved jerkily and were only occasionally in focus. Sometimes they appeared to be in a

Only Victoria's Secret sales figures will show whether the million who days before the show began were just looking.

Mayor reinstates 'niggardly' official

By IAN BRODIE

WASHINGTON'S new Mayor admitted yesterday that he had acted too hastily in. accepting the resignation of a white aide who upset a black subordinate by using

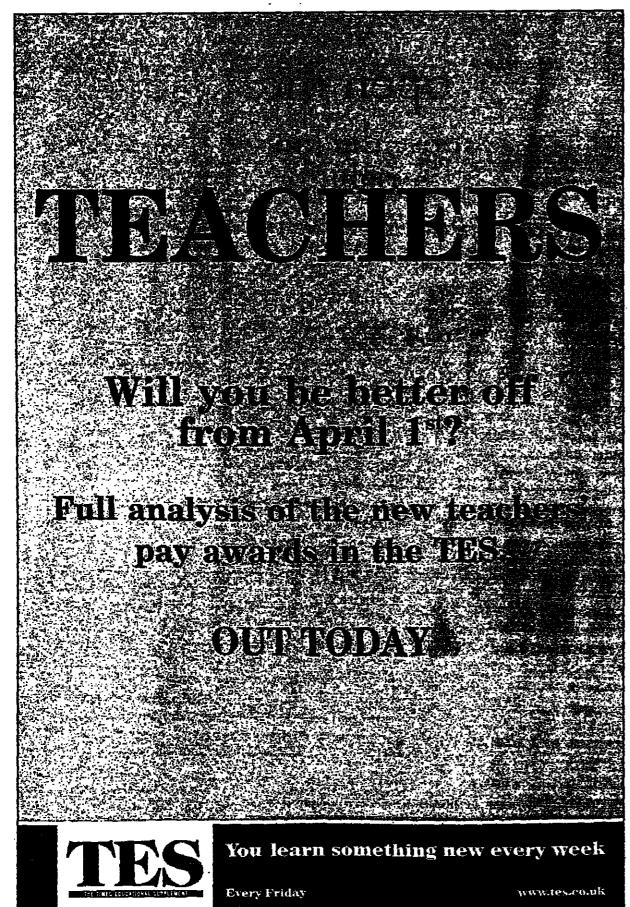
the word "niggardly".

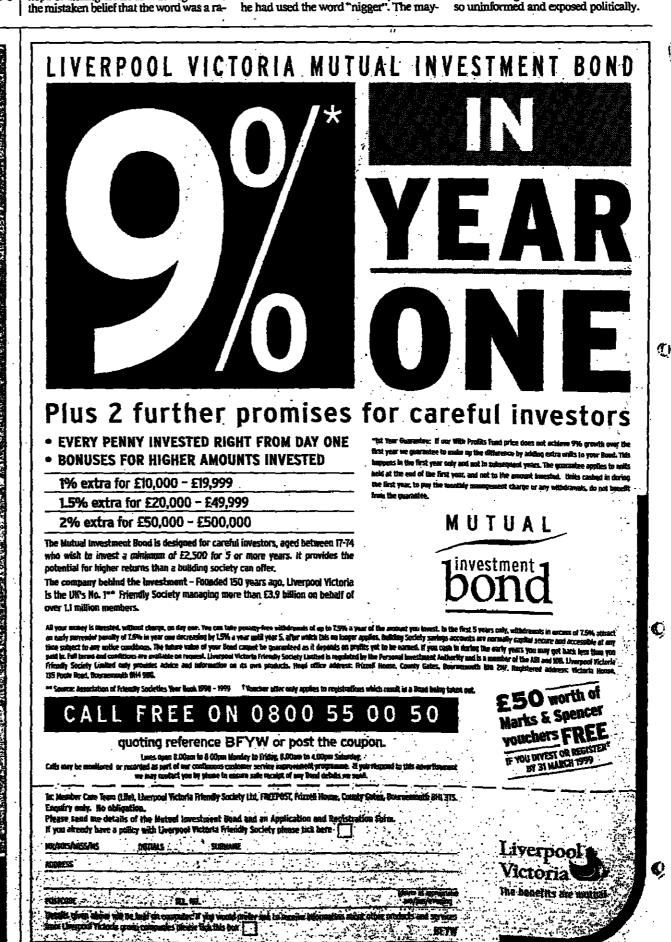
Anthony Williams will give David Howard another job at City Hall in the hope of ending an issue that began with cial slur. The gaffe quickly ballooned into a huge drama involving political correct- Mr Williams said: "While it is important ness and racial sensitivity that became a national embarrassment for Mr Williams, who took over only last month from the widely criticised Marion Barry with promises to revitalise the American

Mr Howard resigned as head of constituent services when rumours spread that

for a mayor, or any leader, to act decisively, make bold decisions and create a sense of urgency, it is not always necessary to

City Hall sources said the episode would lead to a dramatic reduction in the duties of the senior aide who handled the Howard resignation and left Mr Williams





35,000 Kosovo force ready

By MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE EDITOR

NATO is planning to send five brigades, three of them armoured, into Kosovo, with a 5,000-man reserve force in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, if there is a successful peace deal signed in

The total size of the force, including the strategic reserve, will be about 35,000.

With the Rambouillet talks guaranteed to start tomorrow, after the Serbian parliament's approval yesterday for Bel-grade to send a delegation, Nato is anxious to get a clear idea of the nature and scope of

Next week General Wesley Clark. Nato's Supreme Commander Europe, will present his "concept of operations" for Kosovo to the alliance's military committee in Brussels.

Nato hopes that the force envisaged for Kosovo will have the same powers as those it enjoys in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where the Implementation Force (Ifor) of 30,000 troops has almost viceregal authority, with the ability to go anywhere, search any building. demand to see any files and

also to control the airspace. If the Rambouillet talks lead to a settlement. Nato will want

tation mission needed for Kosovo, so that planning can be completed as soon as possible.

an annexe attached to the agreement that will spell out the role it will be expected to peace talks would be that of play in Kosovo. The Dayton peace agreement which ended the war in Bosnia included an annexe that laid out Nato's mandate and responsibilities.

> It remains to be seen whether Belgrade will agree to having 30,000 Nato troops based in its province with clearance to go anywhere they please. Six Nato countries have said

they will contribute to the Kosovo force which probably will be called Kfor. Nato diplomatic sources said that the force would consist of five brigades. three "heavy" and two light,

made up of 15 battalions. One diplomatic source said

limiting the number of Yugoslav Army soldiers allowed to stay in Kosovo during the three-year interim period of a negotiated settlement. The

there will have to be," the source said. Yesterday Alain Richard, the French Defence Minister. said that France would play an important role in Nato's

proposed Kosovo force, send-

ing 5.000 troops with 40 air-

more Yugoslav troops in Kos-

ovo, the more Nato soldiers

craft and ships. Britain is working on continncy plans for sending 5,000 to 8,000 troops; they will incommanded Ailied Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC) headquarters who would be sent from Germany.

M Richard indicated that French Government would be happy for a British general to be put in charge of the Kosovo force. The commander of the ARRC, Lieutenunt-General Sir Michael Jackson, is expected to get the job.

M Richard said that the existing Nato extraction force, on standby in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to evacuate the international verifeation mission in Kosovo, would be the first element of the new force to be sent to Kosovo. France has the largest conwhich is commanded by a French general.
The United States has said

that it will send between 2,000 and 4,000 troops to Kesovo. content to leave the main peace implementation role to the Europeans. However, the Nato diplomatic sources said that it would be crucial for the US contingent to have a highprofile role and not just be in support because of the impact the presence of US forces would have on Belgrade.

Greece also announced yesterday that it would send ground troops to Kosovo. Germany has already promised 3.000 troops. Canada has also confirmed it will participate. ANUA MEOPINIGHAUS / EPA

WORLD IN BRIEF

Russian 'spy' to face new inquiry

charged with spying by the Russian Government, may spend years more under virtual house arrest in his native St Petersburg after the Russian Supreme Court sent the case back for further investigation (Alice Lagnado writes).

Mr Nikitin, 46, was charged with spying in February 1946 after he contributed to a report for Bellona, a Norwegian environmental organisation, in which he accused Russia's Northem Fleet of dumping nuclear waste in the Arctic Sea. He maintained that he used publicly available information. Mr. Nikitin's lawyers announced that they will now take the case to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

Thieves freeze victims

Johannesburg: A South African butcher and his five employees were found frozen to death inside a meat van after a suspected armed robbery, police said. The six had been overpowered by a gang and locked inside the van at a meat factory in Vereeniging, 35 miles south of here. South Africa is one of the world's most crime-plagued countries, with an annual murder rate of 52 people per 100,000 of the population. (Reuters)

£5m Seoul poll 'gift'

Seoul: Chung Tae Soo, founder of South Korea's failed Hanbo group, testified in parliamentary hearings that he gave the former President, Kim Young Sam, 10 billion won (£5 million) to fund his 1992 election campaign. The collapse of Hanbo and other conglomerates sparked the crisis that forced South Korea to accept a hailout arranged by the International Monetary Fund in December 1997, (Reuters)

13 killed in Indonesia

Jakarta: At least 13 people died and hundreds were injured during clashes between civilians and police in Indonesia's rebellious Aceh province, a human rights group said. The Legal Aid Foundation said the deaths happened when police opened fire on a crowd in Idi Cut, about 950 miles northwest of here. Police said that two people died when a crowd waiting to hear a separatist speech was dispersed. (Reuters)

Edna average now

Sydney: Australia's favourite drag queen. Dame Edna Everage, right. is now plain Mrs Edna Everage after relinquishing her title and defecting to the republicans. She said this year's referendum on the republic had brought her out of the anti-monarchy closet in what could provide a boost for the ailing republican movement. "I've been a dame for many years. I've been worshipped in Australia and it's time I got a bit of reali-ty into my life," she said. (AFP)



Deadly cocktail

Moscow: Every 22 minutes a Russian dies after drinking liquor of dubious origin, the Interior Ministry said, adding that in the first 11 months of last year. 21,778 people died from bad liquor, compared with 23,983 for all of 1997. Observers said the figures were suspicious: the ministry's economic crimes department has put the 1997 number at nearly 43,000. (AFP)

Massacre bodies become pawns in propaganda war

THE old woman has become a little more unhinged on each of the three days I have seen her. On Tuesday she was shouting "Shame on Europe", repeatedly outside the mortuary in Pristina, a mantra interrupted only by fits of weeping. Some of her companions on that day, also shattered by bereavement, appeared equally unbalanced: one man kept pulling a segment of human skull still caked in tissue out of his pocket - he said that it

was all he had left of his son. On Wednesday, the old woman was wandering alone through the snowy wasteland around Racak, her home village and the scene three weeks ago of the worst massacre of the Kosovo conflict. "I am looking for my son," she said. But there was no one in

Racak at all. she stood in the square in neighbouring Stimlje yesterday. She was still seeking her son, but speech seemed to have deserted her and she mumbled unintelligibly.

Three weeks after the massacre, the dead have neither been laid to rest nor even reclaimed by their relatives. Instead, in the run-up to the peace talks at Rambouillet, the bodies have become

pawns in a propaganda war.
The reality of what happened at Racak remains shrouded by claim and coun-

Bereaved are unable to bury the dead, writes **Anthony Loyd** in Stimlie

ter-claim. What is known is that four Serb policemen were killed outside the village in a Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) ambush. Subsequently at least 40 ethnic Albanian men from the village were shot in a dawn attack by the Serbs. The Serbs say that all the dead were KLA guerrillas killed in action. The Albanians say they were all civilians. killed after capture.

Sacha Benz, a spokesman for the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, which is trying to negotiate a handover of bodies, said: 'This is obviously a key issue for each side. The Albanians want to make the funeral a symbolic event, with all the bodies buried at once. The Serbs want the bodies to be

buried individually." The 40 bodies have been held by the Serb authorities in the mortuary at Pristina. According to Danica Marinkovic, the Serbian judge charged with investigating the mass-

Ethnic Albanian women wait in Stimlje yesterday for the bodies of their men, killed in Racak, to be handed over acre, 29 bodies have been identified, while the names of the other 11 remain unknown. The report of an independent team of Finnish pathologists

remains unpublished. Two days ago the 29 identified bodies were taken by the Serbs to Stimlje, the nearest secure point to Racak, to be handed over to the Albanians. However, this initiative came to nothing when the Serbs insisted that each body could be reclaimed by only one family member, and was then to be

buried individually. Yesterday the black circus began again, but this time the bodies never even left Pristisent to examine the bodies na. In Stimlie, the expressions of the bereaved, gathered to collect dead sons, husbands or

brothers, crumpled again. "We are not asking for revenge," said an aged man with a face of a thousand lines. "We're not even asking for accountability. All I ask for now is for the dignity to bury my son as I wish."

Serbs reject Nato role

THE Serbian parliament ves-terday steered itself onto a collision course with the international community and Nato. sending its delegates to the Kosovo peace conference with clear mandate to block all attempts to remove the province from Serbia or to send in Nato peacekeepers (Tom Walk-

Vojislav Seselj, leader of the extremist Radical Party, said Nato would "be prevented with all available means" and declared a national "allergy to the mere name" of France. host to the Rambouillet conference set to begin this weekend. The parliament agreed by 227-3 votes to send delegates to

the talks. President Milosevic of Yugoslavia will not travel, but Milan Milutinovic, the Serbian President, may head the

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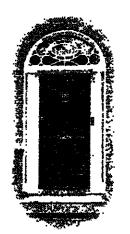
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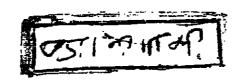


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Idle dogs of war in France bite back with strike

FRENCH mercenaries are in revolt over their lack of work and what they say is the fail-ure of their leaders to pay them for the few missions that have come their way in recent

The malaise has reached such proportions that a group of about 30 mercenaries took the unprecedented step of going on strike last year, Libération reported yesterday. The men downed arms and went fishing when they were supposed to be advising the government troops in Congo

Bob Denard, the celebrated mercenary leader whose band were once known as Les Affreux (The Terrors), is at the centre of the confrontation. The row has been simmering for years but came to light, his soldiers told Libération, because M Denard withheld the



Denard surrenders to the French troops in Comoros

he had promised on the eve of his failed 1995 coup attempt in the Comoros Islands. "It was only when we threatened to speak to the press that he agreed to pay the basic salary (Fr17,500 a month)," one was quoted as saving.

Papon sues over 1961 killing of Algerians

Paris: Claims that French police killed dozens of Algerians in Paris in October 1961 were raised yesterday in a libel suit by Maurice Papon. convicted of crimes against humanity (Adam Sage writes).

Papon, sentenced to ten years jail last year for his war-time role in deporting Jews to Nazi Germany, is suing Jean-Luc Einaudi, an historian. who claims that Papon, as Paris police chief, ordered the crackdown in which up to 200 supporters of Algerian indeThe incident was ignored until M Einaudi testified at Papon's trial. An official hassince admitted that "several dozen" people died as a result of "very heavy" police action.

M Einaudi's legal team says Papon's motive in bringing the lawsuit is to try to influence his court appeal this year against his conviction for wartime crimes against humanity.

Yesterday's hearing opened as documents published from French Army archives revealed the torture of Algerian prisoners in the former colony.



the French state, which has lost its once considerable influence in African affairs and is struggling to maintain a foothold in its former colonies. The French mercenary world is, at the moment, like a small and very disorganised Gallic village," said Emmanuel Pochet, tipped to take over from M Denard, 68.

Some of the most recent onerations, none involving more than a few dozen men, illustrate the problem. In 1997, a 30-strong band set out for the civil war in Zaire - now the Democratic Republic of Congo only to find that it was over.

Two years earlier M Denard had led an assault on the Comoros that turned into a fiasco. Faced by about 1,000 regular French troops, he surrendered and was imprisoned in Paris for nine months. The failure of the 1995 mission was in stark contrast to the 1980s, when M Denard and his 600-strong band propped up-the Comoros Government and virtually ruled the islands. In his-memoirs. M Denard said his interventions in conflicts in Morocco, Benin, Biafra and elsewhere had been carried out with at least the tacit, and sometimes the active, backing of the French secret services. Today, however, the state has disowned M Denard. He is in semi-retirement and Les Affreux have disbanded.

The latest recruits have often come from the ranks of extremist movements, including the French National Front's "security service", according to M Pochet. "If I took old soldiers close to the NF for [an operation in] Zaire, that's because I had to act quickly and because I had decided to get rid of the psychopaths, the cannibals and those who yearned after the SS. Some of them had been photographed eating a prisoner's liver in Bur-ma," M Pochet said



Russian mission control technicians monitor yesterday's failed attempt to deploy a mirror in space to reflect light into the dark corners of Earth

Reflecting on Russia's darker side

THE Russian attempt yesterday to unfold a giant mirror in space that would illuminate the country's darker expanses was condemned by scientists before it had even begun. But clearly these people have never lived in the darker parts of Russia during the winter months.

The experiment failed, much to the glee of Western observers - and to the disappointment of people like me. During hearly two winters spent in St Peters-burg, I would have gladly paid good money to receive a few minutes of sunshine.

Repeated efforts yesterday by cosmonauts involved in the Mir space station's Znamya (Banner) experiment failed to unfold the 25-yard flower-shaped mirror. The mirror apparently snagged on an antenna, and a second attempt will be made today if technicians are able to remedy the problem overnight.

hope. The city is on a latitude level with Alaska, and though in summer the glorious white nights make it possible to read a newspaper in the street at 3am, in winter sunlight is a brief encounter framed by long hours of darkness.

St Petersburg is dark - very dark. During my first winter there I mutated into an antisocial, apathetic creature, a kind As Mir's mirror mission

falters, Alice Lagnado in St Petersburg puts

the case for more light

of mole in human form. I had enough sleep, but felt permanently exhausted. My skin was a papery pale blue. I felt lu-gubrious and spent evenings slumped over a book and avoiding social contact because, well, it involved going outside.

However, I soon discovered that among the Russians, who I thought were too tough to become miserable over such

a banal thing as the weather, there were plenty of fellow complainers. Marina, a glamorous crune reporter, hated it so much she wanted to marry a West European man just to get away.

The most common solution was vodka. "I don't know how I'd get through winter without it," said Lena, a lawyer, who apart from her regular vodka shots was incredibly healthy. The weather was also, I'm sure, why extra-marital affairs were a way of life. It's a warm, indoor activity that passes the time and lifts the spirits.

The dark has also given Russian literature its fairly well-deserved reputation for grimness. How could Dostoevsky have done anything useful in Tuscany? What would Gogol get up to in California? They would be lost without that ready made bleak atmosphere — and their readers might have actually enjoyed a novel

So before you criticise the space mirro on environmental grounds, think of how many marriages it could save. How many drink problems it could avoid. How the Russian novel could be reborn as a joyous paean to the goodness of life instead of a bitter testimony to human weakness. And compare that to the upset a mirror might cause a few reindeer.

THE SUNDAY



light on St Petersburg

Lloyds Bank Base Rate

Lloyds Bank Plc has decreased its Base Rate to 5.50 per cent p.a. from 6.00 per cent p.a. with effect from close of business, Thursday 4th February 1999.

The change in Base Rate will also be applied from the same date by Lloyds Private Banking Limited. www.iloydsbank.co.uk



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Coutts & Co **Base Rate**

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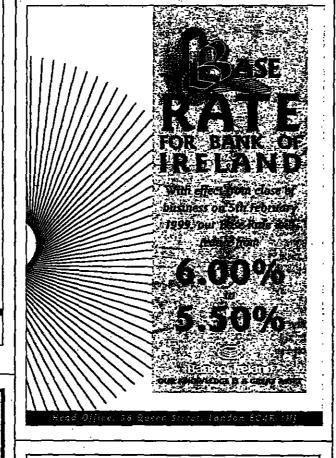
6.00% to 5.50% p.a.

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	S	Solicitors' Reserve Accour	ti.	
Old Green Pater per winner (%)	AER (MI)	- Rokerce	New Gross Rate per erress (N)	74 <u>-</u> 457.70)
		Instant access - interest paid quarterly		
4.20	4.27	£250,000 +	3.70	3.75
4.15	4.22	£100,000 - £249,999	3.60	3.65
3.75	3.80	£25,000 - £99,999	3.25	3.29
3.25	3.29	£2,000 ~ £24,999	2.75	2.78
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THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS



schwitz an link is bank

keover

Auschwitz loan link hits bank takeover

GERMANY'S largest commer-cial bank, Deutsche Bank, was thrust into the middle of a new Nazi-era scandal yesterday, casting a shadow over its planned \$10 billion (£6 billion) takeover of Bankers Trust. According to Dr Manfred

Pohl, the bank's own historian. Deutsche Bank helped to finance the building of Auschwitz concentration camp.

Coming on the heels of a pending American legal action over compensation for Holocaust victims, the claim is likely to blight the bank's expansion in the United States. Deutsche Bank is not the

only target of legal action - in-deed its rival, Dresdner Bank, once known as the SS bank, is also facing huge court claims - and the pressure on German industry has prompted the Government to set up a company-funded compensation scheme that would fend off further action. Bodo Hombach, adviser to the Chancellor. Gerhard Schröder, will travel to New York next week to discuss a possible deal.

Whether that will be enough to protect business -- dozens of firms, including Volkswagen and the metals group Degussa, are vulnerable — seems doubtful. To approach the sum that is being demanded in US courts, the fund would

have to be about \$18 billion. Deutsche Bank credit records show that it lent money to companies building the concentration camp, above all W. Riedel und Sohn in Bielsko-Biala in southern Poland.

More than 1.5 million people, mainly Jews, were killed at Auschwitz. The level of the bank's involvement is still uncertain, Dr Pohl said, adding: "It is clear that this was known in the main office in Katowice. It is not certain whether it was: known in Berfin. However, the loan would have had to have been approved in Berlin.

Deutsche Bank was distrusted by the Nazis in the 1920s and was branded initially as a "red bank" because of the many Jews, Catholics and Social Democratic sympathisers associated with it. That soon changed after the Nazi takeover in 1933. Jewish members were forced off the board and the bank took a full part in "Aryanising" Jewish property, that is, buying up houses and flats that Jews had been forced

to sell at low prices. The bank had no scruples about taking over the Rothschild bank, Creditanstalt, in Vienna in 1938, even though its chief executive had been thrown from a moving car by storm troopers.

Under the new management, Creditanstalt opened a separate department to conduct business with companies operating with labour supplied by concentration camps. Camp gold, often taken from murdered Jews, was traded with the assistance of Creditanstalt. The Gestapo held accounts at Deutsche Bank

Little of this is new: indeed, counter-intelligence working for the US military government prepared a report on German industry in 1947 which devoted 100 pages to the bank's overseas activities during the Third Reich.

The latest claim, however, so plainly identifies the bank with Auschwitz, the century's symbol of organised mass murder, that it is difficult to see how the bank can avoid its responsibilities or restore its prestige in the United States. Its most persuasive defence

is that the bank itself made available the company archives which provided yesterday's disclosures. The bank's executive board is due to meet next week to consider the latest disclosures and the immediate future of the merger with Bankers Trust.







Diego Marani, of the EU Council of Ministers, hopes that his new language. Europanto, will make people from all countries laugh and improve the free movement of ideas

'Europanto' bubbles out of linguistic liquidiser

"In Seine Bruxel office, inspector Cabillot regarded la rain out des vocabulary that is "a real Eu-across the idea of inventing a window while pensante aan quanto tempo und quanto work necessited ut Europa finalmently unita make.

hat stream of gobbledygook opens the first novel to be written in "Europanto", a bizarre and free-form mixture of European languages that has been cooked up by an EU translator as the linguistic answer to the single European currencv. The passage above translates, if that is the right word, as: "In his Brussels office, Inspector Cabillot looked at the rain outside his window and thought how much time and effort it had taken to build a united Europe."

Building a single European language is much simpler, it appears, for Europanto (from the Greek word panto, meaning everything) has no grammar, no punctuation, no pronunciation and only one firm rule: it should be at least vaguely comprehensible to every European.

The linguistic recipe used by Diego Marani, Europanto's Italian-born inventor, is broadly the following: take a BY BEN MACINTYRE

firm grounding of English and French, toss in chunks of German, Spanish and Italian; garnish with a dash of Flemish and Euroslang; pour the contents into a language liquidiser and serve when thoroughly puréed. In Las adventures des In-

spector Cabillot, the Europannovel just published in France, Signor Marani. 39, takes his language into new territory, having already given rise to a Europanto board game and a regular Belgian

The hero of Signor Mar-ini's novel is the hapless Inspector Cabillot (a reference to cabillaud in French, meaning cod), "el autentico europeano polizero qui fighte contra al mal por eine Europa van pax und prosperity donde se speake eine sole lingua: de Europanto". For those readers still getting to grips with the ropean policeman who fights against evil for a Europe united in peace and prosperity where a single language is spoken: Europanto".

The inspector tackles such varied euro-concerns as a mad cow disease terrorist cell (Demente Bovine Fraktion) that takes over London ("Die mad vaquas van all Europe sich united in Grosse Britannia und last noche taked el power in London'l and the best chat-up line in a disco "Mayde trinke tu etwas?" (Fancy a drink?)

resident Clinton's current domestic complications also get the Europanto treatment. beginning with this unlikely exchange between two world leaders: Jacques Chirac "Hallo Billy! Jacques speakante! Wat pas-se?" Bill Clinton: "Ah! Jacques! Wat surprise! Ich passe gut! Todo in order. Und

Marani, who speaks some ten languages fluently and works at the EU Council of Ministers, came hybrid tongue when he and his fellow interpreters found they were slipping into an odd multilingual argot after a hard day of high-speed trans-

lation in Brussels. The pseudo-language has already attracted a large popular following and items in Europanto have begun appearing in the official Council of Ministers' Gazette, although not everyone gets the joke. Signor Marani has received a number of letters from Scandinavians wanting to sign up for Europanto lessons, and speakers of Esperanto, the universal language invented in 1887, are particularly unamused.

started speaking Europanto as a joke, but now actually thinks in Euro-pidgin. "I adopted Énglish structure because it is universally

Signor Marani said he

known, and I tend to use words with a common root. usually Latin," he said. "International English is already a mixture of languages, polluted by foreign speakers like myself who put something of their own culture into it."

As the author points out, many common words have already transcended national barriers to become part of universal parlance, such as pizza. espresso. chile con carne and OK.

Ne blurb that accompanies Signor Marani's project may have a familiarly earnest pan-European ring to it offering to create "a sort of humour that makes people from all countries laugh" and "facilitate the free movement of ideas". The only problem with Europanto is that, while some of it may be comprehensible to most Europeans, it seems unlikely that anyone, save Signor Marani. can follow every word of the strange linguistic hotchpotch he has created.

But if you think Europanto is too much like hard work now. just wait until Romania and Poland join the EU.

Vis-à-vis your vocabulario... Hallo-cocco — Good morning

Reipo! — Help! Teine onlogs —

Me palpito por toi — I love you Minde teine vocabulario — Watch your lip

Keine werry - Na problem Muchas dankes — Thank you ich turbo tel -- i love you We pisse? — Where are the toilets? alade — Never mind Olice - Good evening, Mademoiselle. Would you accord me the

pleasure of the next dance?

Hot-blooded Italians are exposed as shrinking violets

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

FAR from being extrovert and excitable, the Italians are a nation of shy and retiring people, it emerged this week. This will come as a surprise to anyone who has seen Italians engaged in a friendly argument in the street, voices raised and arms whirling, or (in the case of women) has been the target of male attention. But according to a survey by the Italian Psychosomatic Association. the bluster and exuberance hides a

natural bashfulness and a sense of insecurity. Most Italians, it seems, are too timid to confront a shop manager to demand a refund or change an item, let alone talk to their boss about conditions of work or a pay rise.

Five million Italians - one in ten of the population - are too shy to enter a shop, or hold any kind of conversation with their superiors at work. Many Italians will leave a shop without making a purchase, or buy something they do not really want, rather than cause a fuss.

Eighty-four per cent of people in

the survey, which involved 2,000 Italians between 22 and 63, admitted to "at least occasional bouts of shyness". La Repubblica commented. "We are world famous for our nerves of steel, our social panache and our outgoing behaviour, but we seem to

have turned into a nation of shrink-The survey said nearly a quarter of those questioned said they hated having to make a speech in public. "Their foreheads run with sweat, they stutter, their knees turn to jelly and they

feel sick." the survey said. "All these

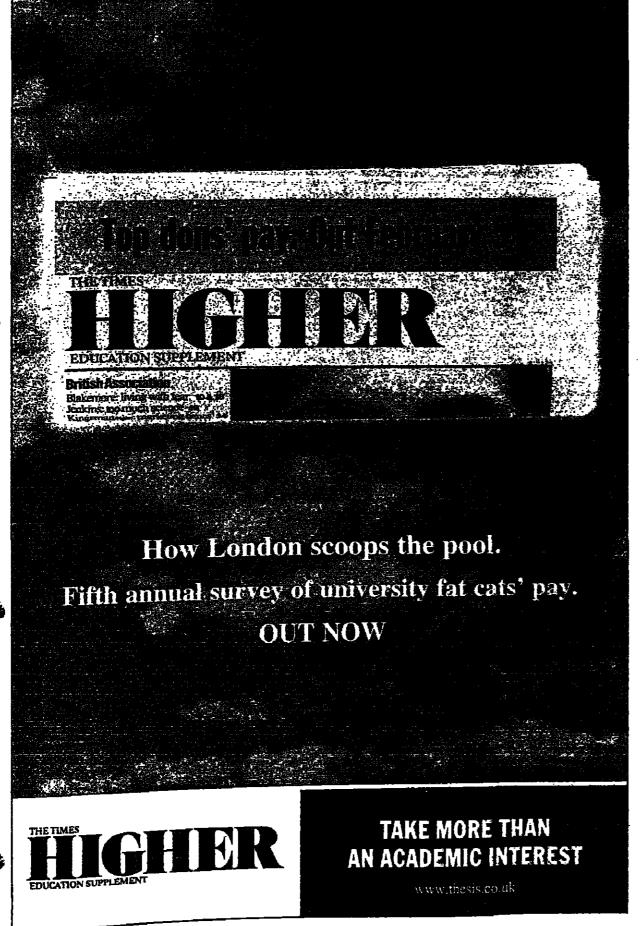
consequences for those involved, and the results can be serious." Other "moments of stress" which caused suffering included examina-

symptoms tend to have tragi-comic

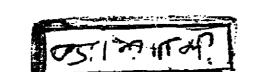
tions and "little chats with the boss". Five per cent said they were too timid to eat in restaurants in case they made a fool of themselves or were let down by their table manners. Three per cent were too embarrassed to use a lavatory in a public place.

The association said the problem was worse in northern cities, such as Milan and Turin, than in the more outgoing (and sunnier) south. But with St Valentine's Day approaching, the survey offered encouraging find-ings for the romantically inclined, noting that only 11 per cent said they suffered "sleepless nights" before mak-

ing "passionate declarations". Despite reports of the decline of the "Latin lover", Il Messaggen, said, Italians remained bold in "matters of the heart". The rest should overcome their nervousness by making light of their affliction. "There is a funny side to shyness, and if sufferers can try to see it they are half-way to a cure".

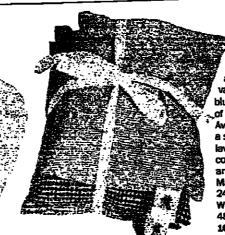






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You're looking just swell

suppose that, Viscountess Linley, blooming pret-tily on the front pages of the weekend papers, you suddenly find - casting your mind back to that sudden surge of pre-Christmas affection for your husband, and do-ing a quick calculation on your fingers - that you, too, are in an interesting condition. What is the first thing you should do? Hire a birthing pool? Book your husband a course of antenatal classes? Put the clump of cells' name down for Eton? All very important, but even more crucial is that you should make a firm resolution not to start reading the magazines published for the Future Mother.

Why not? Because they are dreary, that's why. Pregnancy is a thrilling and rewarding experience. during which you have a fair chance of looking as pretty and sexy as you ever have in your life. But if you read these magazines, you will be able to think of nothing but varicose veins and stretch marks. As for the fashion — it is enough to drive anyone to a hot bath and a bottle of gin. Page after page of leopard-print overshirts in nasty syn-



thetics and unspeakable mater-

nity dungarees. I wonder why the manufacturers of maternity wear think that British women undergo at the moment of conception a taste transplant that leads them to abandon their habitual quirky and self-assured look. (I exempt from this jeremiad Prima Baby magazine, which at least realises that pregnant women don't want to dress like toddlers: the Vertbaudet catalogue, which has some flashes of French brio. and Formes, a French label with a pronounced, if conventional, sense of style. If you can't get through pregnancy without a midnight-blue silk fitted dress and jacket with diamanté buttons, £185, Formes is

for you. Its smoke-

satin pedal pushers, £55, and

matching four-button jacket.

£135, are quite nice, too.) Why do women put up with this awful stuff? The answer is, I imagine, that many of them don't. It is hard to see why anyone would want to spend money on clothes with a life of just nine months. I doubt whether Lady Linley will be spending the next few months trussed up in maternity dungarees. And I don't suppose it even entered the heads of Posh, Scary and Whatsername from All Saints to go trolling down to their local Mothercare or Dorothy Perkins Maternity. They went on wearing exactly what they've always worn, dispensing merrily with the idea that pregnancy demands concealing drapery or fussy details to "distract" the eye — as though any-thing could distract attention

ing off with a stolen egg.

The best-dressed pregnant women are those who wear clothes that celebrate their new, gravid shape. Trying to achieve this ideal, I spent my pregnancy in the grip of a black cotton-Lycra bodysuit by Jasper Conran. The Lycra supported everything that needed support, and made the best of the bits that remained slender.

from the fact that one looks, as Colette put it, like a rat mak-

f I were in the early stages of pregnancy now. I might head for Top Shop, where there is a huge selection of pretty A-line skirts with stretchy waists. Draw-string fatigues are £32, and a long, cosy fleece skirt in grey or cream with a draw-string waist is £32.

At Warehouse, a sexy little

string waist is £32.

At Warehouse, a sexy little black jersey dress is £40 and a long, fine wool tunic in palest grey is £35 — good with black acetate jersey wide-leg pants from Wallis, £45. Next, which cuts generously, has a statu-



Cook sign a zomble when the log for face masks to dry?
The analyse is Elone's quick self-menting music, which were sign, additing sign (searched) the completions of the completions of massaging one places of the particular parts.



Lisa Rinna, left, and Paula Yates went on wearing exactly what they have always worn

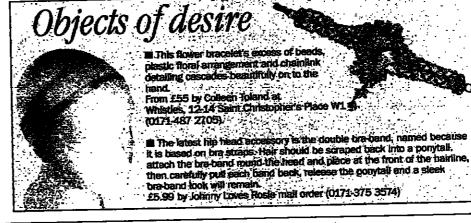
esque embroidered crinkle viscose long dress and coat in sand or navy for £79.99. At Laura Ashley there is an entire wardrobe in cable-knit cream and navy cotton — a long skirt is £45, a tunic £50, and an ankle-length cardigan coat, £80.

Marks & Spencer has a collection in crinkle viscose, in sand, camouflage green, white and black; wide-leg pants with an elastic waist are £30, a long shirt, £35, and a sleeveless tunic, £26. If you have a party to go to, their white viscose pants could be lifted spectacularly out of their league by a white devore shawl coat with dusty pink and green velver flowers from English Eccentrics. £395, or a ravishing devore turnic with a classical pattern in

Wedgwood blue velvet on white chiffon, £450. Georgina von Etzdorf, too,

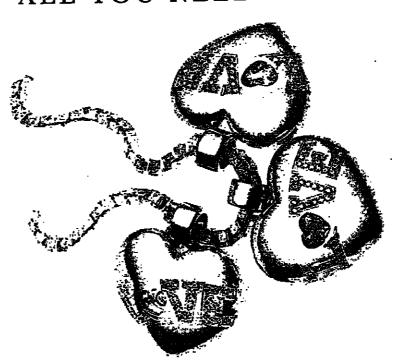
is ideal for style-conscious mothers-to-be. Her collection includes silk jersey T-shirts. £167, and dresses, £390, and an exquisite white linen kimono coat, densely swirled with tender green. £487, which might have been designed on purpose to make a girl proud to be pregnant.

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Elle Macpherson dispenses with the idea that pregnancy demands concealing drapery



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CHANGING TIMES

Love turns bard



Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth Paltrow in Shakespeare in Love - witty Stoppardian dialogue, the ironic use of anachronism and lots of sex

class, economic standing are

portrayed as low hurdles to be unthinkingly leapt — that our emotional lives often bob

alone at a rather even pace.

Far from experiencing the

grand amour, many of the chil-

dren of the Sixties and early

Seventies (the era of free love).

now find themselves in what

you might call "comfortable

shoe" relationships. Hearing Viola (Gwyneth Paltrow), de-

ried life. In Eliza-

bethan times it

may have been es-

sential to compro-

mise in marriage. sacrificing romantic love to material

and social con-

cerns, but in a freer

minds of thousands of young

women as they teeter on the

brink of marriage, but per-

haps because we apparently

have complete freedom to

make the match we choose, it

is rarely asked out loud. A film

such as Shakespeare in Love. which apparently presents the

real McCoy, can induce a nas-

ty realisation that there may

be Something Missing. Toss-

ing and turning at 4am, it can

be hard to grapple with the idea that there will always be

something missing in a long term relationship.

As an antidote to the film,

it's worth quoting one of Dor-

othy Parker's cynical verses.

"By the time you say you're

one of those films purpose-built for the "courting couple". Yet, as with so many of the bard's romantic comedies, there is an here. You think you're getting a light romantic pick-me-up. As a twenty or early thirty-something with intellectual pretensions, you would not dream of putting burn on seat for the likes of You've Got Mail. But with Shakespeare in Love you can cite witty Stoppardian dialogue and the ironic use of anachronism as justification. The appearance of Gary from Men Behaving Badly wearing a baggy dou-blet is an added bonus for men of the Loaded generation. Oh, and there is lots of sex, some of

in involving Gwyneth Paltrow.
So, a feelgood movie all round. Well, perhaps not.
There is anecdotal evidence that, far from providing thera-peutic escapism, this film is thrusting a rapier into the side of relationships. Couples enter the cinema in a state of sound emotional health, and exit with seeping flesh wounds. It is less than a week since it went on general release, but in

hakespeare in Love is Far from providing romantic escapism, Shakespeare in Love is thrusting a rapier into the side of settled relationships, says Grace Bradberry

> one London literary agency the blood is already on the carpet. A happily married thirtysomething acquaintance reports that two of her younger colleagues have required wine-bar therapy after view-ing this apparently harmless romantic comedy.

In both cases an evening at the cinema ended in a blazing row. One woman could not sleep all night, and next morning informed her boyfriend that their ten-year relationship was going nowhere. What with work deadlines, mortgag-

his./Shivering and sighing/ And he vows his passion is/In-finite, undying — /Lady, make a note of this/One of you is lying." If she's even slightly right in this jaundiced view. ise — and a bit of fibbing — is necessary or no relationship would outlast the first stay-overs. gives the illusion of there being few barriers to love — race,

In fairness, the film's script has plenty of antidotes of its own. For starters, Will Shakespeare is married, a rather relevant detail that he doesn't see fit to declare to Viola. For another, the film cuts between the love scenes of Romeo and Juliet and those between Will and Viola, as though art exactly mirrored life - then undercuts this with literary jokes. The owl and the lark that make up Will and Viola's early morning conversation become the distinctly more poetic nightingale and the lark in the play. Still, it is true that Will and Viola don't spend their ear-

week, the vive a night at the flicks with Joseph Fiennes and co? If the cement of your relationships is alalready on sures it's best not to the carpet go at all. If it isn't, go armed with these thoughts: Vio-

age surely it isn'? these thoughts: Vio-This question lurks in the la is a virgin, Will is a married man, and these two salient facts account for a lot of the passion. Second, the man Gwyneth Paltrow is asked to marry may have many faults. but underneath it all he is still Colin Firth. Your partner too

may have hidden qualities.

Third, they always make love at her place not his. The amazing manor house with the river approach undoubted. the river approach undoubtedly contributes to the romance — in other words it has a hard, material foundation. If you junk your partner for a pauper, you will never own a property with a balcony. And finally, the film is a comedy not a tragedy - they don't die for

ARTS A cultural revolution at the LPO: pages 34-37

Oh, the sweet music of Black & Decker

ON THE SIDE

JOE JOSEPH

hich one us town-dwellers does not occasionally ache to be a little closer to Nature and its many breath-taking marvels, such as butterflies. the Northern Lights, and the concept "centre of gravity", the structural engineering miracle which enabled Anita Ekberg to always remain upright even though her breasts stretched so far ahead of her that they needed their own passports when travelling?

So imagine my delight at spotting an ad by a company called Britannia Gold offering a selection of compact discs called Serenity which enable us to "escape from the frustrations of modern living as the therapeutic and deeply inspiring sounds of nature, intermixed with heautiful New Age melodies, cre-

ate the perfect environment for peace and tran-quillity. A total of ten CDs—including The Mystic Sea, Chorus Of Whales, Tranquil Harbour, and even Ocean Surf — all for only £9.99.

Serenity is clearly re-sponding to a growing ur-ban yearning for the sounds of Nature BBC Radio 3 has already made its own nod to Nature by broadcasting a series consisting of nothing but sounds of wind, rain, tweeting birds and crashing waves. The soothing effect of these recordings was only slightly marred by a subsequent admission by Bob Geldof, whose production company made the programmes, that the southing sounds we heard in Rainfall—remember that downpour in a tropical rainforest in Malaysia? — had been creat-ed by turning on a domestic shower in a bathroom

the shower in a bathroom in North London.

But we townes didn't mind because—given our entpaths with hature and our understanding of its mysteries—we didn't achally make. In Manifestan, where Nature is something you are required by law to put in a pooper scoper, they were so impressed they gave Rabifall a special radio award.

Still, the idea of sitting at home and having the world brought to you on CD is so thrilling that there's no reason to deprive people who live in the countryside of the buzz of city life. Rating Britanhia produced CDs that allow farmers to estape from the frustrations of endless guerrery and bleating sheep as the therapeutic sounds of the Big Smoke create the perfect environment for tearing out your har or even murdering your next-door neighbour with the sander attachment of his Bosth power drift.

These tapes would also be very relating for those townies among us who suffer with

for those townies among us who suffer withdrawal symptoms when venturing outside the M25 because of the ununistakable allum-

uring the Winter Sale our entire collection of exclusive

save you 20% to 50% off our usual prices. Enjoy some

of the most exciting furniture in the UK, and let our free

interior design service help you put the pieces together.

international brand and designer furniture is reduced to

dance of large animal life that seems to be roaming around without leads.

An initial selection should include a tape on which the only sound is the insistent tsktsk-tsk-tsk you hear leaking from the Walkman of the person sitting next to you on the Tube. The CD officially lasts for 40 minutes (that is, roughly the same time as it takes to circumnavigate the Circle Line) although there will also be an extended remix version lasting at least 85 minutes to accommodate the Circle Line's trademark signal failures and points failures.

Another CD would carry the sound of building works being undertaken just the other side of a party wall (a blend of Black & Decker, Radio One, and occasional yells, in-

cluding: "Quick! Turn it off at the mains before we' re flooded!"). A compilation CD would bring together the sounds of various male executives using their mobile telephones to call their secretaries from the train and say: "Hello? Sally? Simon here. Just calling to collect my messages. What none? OK, well you know how to get me if anyone does call."
There will also be a spe-

cial set of recordings for those who find the sound of Westminster politics soothing including a regu-larly updated CD in which Tony Blair pursues his policy of bypassing newspapers which distort what he is trying to say by speaking directly to each one of us in our sitting-

To end unsubstantiated tittle-tattle about what his ministers get up to, the CD will include recordings of Robin Cook at the

airport telling his former wife Margaret that he has just been informed via pager message that it was time to end their marriage; another of Blair discussing with Alastair Campbell whether, on the basis of overnight focus group findings that the nation is appalled by Glenn Hoddle's views on reincarnation and the disabled, he should give a display of decisive leadership by jumping on the bandwagon and calling for Hoddle to go: and a discreet recording of Mr Blair asking his closest advisers if, given new Labour's disgust with inherited privilege, it wasn't now time for him to abolish the Queen and perhaps replace her with a commoner like, um, maybe himself who -only for a transitional period of 30 years — would be addressed as Your Majesty so as to maintain some sense of continuity during the move to a more democratic system.

These ten CDs will also sell for just £9.99 though once you've heard them I'm confident that you, too, will think they sound as if they should have cost much, much less.

clare, "I will have poetry in my life," may be all that is needed es, and the scarcity of London properties with "outside space" there seemed to be nei-ther time nor scope for balcoly mornings debating whether to plunge women in warm, stato get a cleaner or whose turn ble but rather becalmed partnerships headlong duvet cover. (Viola ny scenes, trysts, and above all The final image has a nurse to sort In less these kinds of of Viola walking Perhaps it's precisely be-cause we live in a society that things out - every alone on some disthan a tant shore is not the girl should get most encouraging

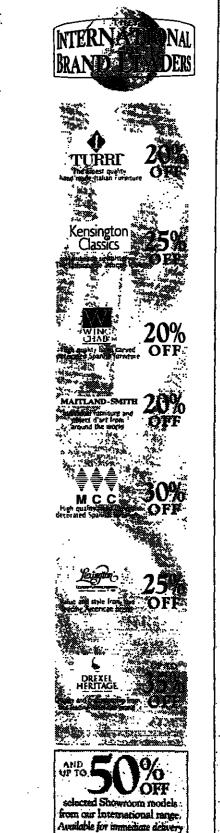
blood is



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Tony, I've got a bone to pick

The Prime Minister should

rein in his out-of-control freaks

al Lottery jackpot than to die from eating beef on the bone. You are 100 times more likely to be killed by a bolt of lightning. And you are 10,000 times more likely to be mur-dered. Your chances of dying in any one year from flu are one in 5,000; from eating beef on the bone, they are one in 1.000,000,000.

So you do not have to be a mathematician to realise that Nick Brown's decision to extend the ban on certain cuts of meat is hopelessly disproportionate to the risk. And it makes me wonder about Tony Blair's supposed determina-tion to curb his ministers'

For Downing Street is wor-ned about the charge that it is turning Britain into a nanny state. On Monday, the Better Regulation Task Force is hosting a seminar at the Cabinet Office on risk and government intervention. Three members of Mr Blair's staff are attending. This will be followed by a private seminar of ministers, culminating in a session with the Prime Minister to discuss how to improve the handling and communication of risk.

The Government could start by treating us as adults. Since the 1950s, we have become less deferential and more confi-dent. We care about our health, but we understand it better too. From newspaper

health pages to the Internet, there is a wealth of independent information to

Moreover, we are far happier to take risks that are "voluntary" than those that are forced upon us. So, for instance, we may choose to ski or to ride a both ous, while resenting

air pollution which people are willing to accept risks some 1,000 times greater from voluntary activities than from involuntary ones that give them the same benefits.

Eating a T-bone steak is a voluntary pursuit. As long as shops attach a label informing customers that there is a minuscule risk of infection, that should be the limit of government intervention. The same is true for unpasteurised milk and vitamin B6.

But politicians and bureaucrats never seem to take the rewards into account in their obsession with reducing risk. When ministers talk about cutting deaths on the road from drink driving, they never mention the vast reduction in enjoyment and convenience that halving the drink-drive limit would cause. When they try to restrict doses of vitamin B6, they do not stop to think about the health benefits that the vitamin offers. And when they ban beef on the bone, they do not bother to quantify the pleasures lost, or indeed the livelihoods lost, from the prohibition. In other words, people balance risk and reward politicians and bureaucrats

often do not. Nor do they accept that it can be perfectly rational to run risks that others consider unacceptable. I might well prefer to die of a coronary at 60 having enjoyed delicious

ou are 70 times more food all my life than restrict myself to lettuce and bran and last a decade longer.

When there is no reward, only risk, it may often be right to intervene. There is no pleasure to be gained from drinking unsafe tap water or from having to boil it first. We all benefit when the Government ensures that tap water is

And when the safety of others is endangered by the risks we take, there is a case for action too. So, while I believe that the Government should allow people to smoke cannabis in their homes, I do concede that it should stop them driving under the influence. But, even when others' safety is concerned, ministers should still balance rewards against risk. After all, they could eliminate deaths by banning cars altogether. But society accepts a certain amount of danger in return for the convenience of using a car.

There is no consistency to the way politicians react to risk these days. The Tories went into denial faced with the possibility that BSE might cause Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans. Labour went into a flat spin faced with the possibility that beef-on-the-bone might kill one in a billion people. Now we have the odd speciacle of Labour banning T-bone steaks but allowing genetically modified food to go ahead. The Conservatives

hold exactly the opposite positions. The Tory leader may be motivated

by no more than political opportun-ism, but for once I side with William Hague. The risks of GM food to the environment. birds, to insects, let alone to humans, are unknown --- pos-

- and potentially

huge. What of the may be less harmful. An rewards? They may be great in academic study has found that sub-Saharan Africa, but in Britain, we produce too much food already. And here is a Government not managing an existing risk, but introducing a

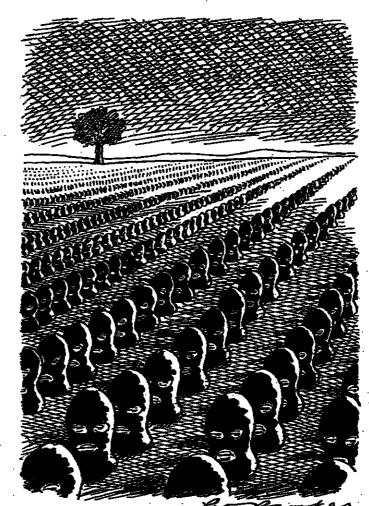
new risk into the country. Moreover, it is a risk that individuals can neither avoid nor control. They can control the risk of salmonella by cooking their chicken properly; they can avoid the risk of CJD by eschewing beef. But people living near fields of GM crops have no choice in the matter. And we may all rue a dearth of skylarks or an infestation of insects if the introduction of GM plants disturbs the fragile balance of Britain's ecosystem.

t is time that ministers got the business of risk into proportion. They should be allowed to intervene only when the size of the risk iustifies it, when the rewards do not offset it and where citizens cannot choose to avoid the risk for themselves.

Otherwise, they bring the whole regulatory system into disrepute. Politicians are always berating the public for acting neurotically in the face of food or health scares. But they can hardly expect us to be rational - and to trust them when they are prepared to act hysterically themselves.

maryann.sieghart@the-times.





YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW.

Don't blame the harlots

et them for sex. If not sex, then try money. If the money doesn't burn, try religion. Try anything. But get them. Bring the bastards down. Each week needs a corpse. Voltaire said, to keep the English ruling class in order. Any accountability will do. Or as the Aztecs presciently pointed out, without regular human sacrifice how can you possibly maintain the circula-tion of the Sun?

The destruction of the England football manager Glenn Hoddle this week was an instance of 'virtual" mob rule. A crowd with its blood up took a wink from the sheriff, closed on the hapless victim, kicked him to death, and then drew back in horror from the deed. dispersed, they mumbled nervously that he was "a known wierdo" and had probably "given offence". They seemed briefly fearful of their power. The street was soon empty, but for a girl weeping over the

Barely a week goes by without these ritual slayings. Harriet Harman, Ron Davies, Derek Draper, Peter Mandelson, Geoffrey Robinson, Charlie Whelan, Will Carling, Tom Spencer, Glenn Hoddle, a Roman Catholic bishop, a public school headmaster, anyone will do. Whatever their misdeeds, they have been selected from the ranks of the well-known or less well-known. They are hauled before a kangaroo court, where the audience demands swift, intense and dramatic justice.

The recent destruction on grounds of sex of the careers of two politicians. Ron Davies and Tom Spencer, was wholly out of propor-tion to their "crimes". The offences committed were to the dignity of their office, and only when revealed. Like similar fates meted out to David Mellor and a former Chief of the General Staff, private lives affected public duties only when it was shouted so loud as to become self-fulfilling. The usual justification for such intrusion, whatever the catalyst, is "hypocrisy on the part of a public figure". This is now a catch-all justification. Even if the victim has never uttered a word on sex or the family, the mere fact of being well-known renders his priva-cy violable. Like a pop star or a footballer, he is a "role model". preferably throwing in relief some

salacious incident. The hounding from office of Mr Mandelson and Mr Robinson was The press doesn't bring down public

figures, weak institutions do

hardly different. Their private dealings merited inquiry only where it impinged on their public duties. There was clear evidence of unwisdom, but not of corruption, malad-ministration or theft. The decapitation of both was ludicrously severe. As for Mr Hoddle, his bizarre religious views may have caused disabled lobbyists a frosty soundbite, and evoked from Tony Blair his sofa rendering of Judge Dan-forth in The Crucible. But the lesson is alarming. Every corner of public life is subject to a

practice, in which anyone remotely famous must guard their every word and deed on pain of a midnight knock on the door and their reputations splattered over the front page next day with their jobs

splattered the day At this point the familiar cry is to blame the press. True, the press is a dreadful court of assize. It has the

instincts of a lynch mob and knows no penalty short of death. It also treats the public deeds of politicians as boring, and there-fore unworthy of scrutiny, and uses their private lives to stand proxy. A statesman can be responsible for horrendous mistakes in his public life. But such mistakes are dull fare. If you want serious column inches on a Lord Chancellor or a Foreign Secretary these days, you reveal his

choice of wallpaper or mistress. Yet the power of the press to bring down public figures in this way is phoney. Baldwin's "harkus" gibe was a fallacy. The press may be without responsibility — who ever pretended otherwise? — but its power is a function only of what is granted by others. The press sacks nobody. Prime Ministers sack. Tory parties sack. Football Associations sack. They may delegate the job to the press. How often are the spin-doctors heard muttering, "pres-sure irresistible... nothing wrong

but looks bad . . . rather mishandled"? But these are the words of politicians passing the buck.

One reason for the media's role as Acas of the gutter is that other conduits of government accountabi-lity have atrophied. Britain lacks de Tocqueville's "intermediate institutions of democracy", of an effec-tive parliament, local councils, semi-independent parties. In deciding whether a colleague should resign, a Prime Minister would once have taken proper soundings.

He would have consulted colleagues in Cabinet, Parliament and the party in the country. He might have asked others to investigate and not rely on "media reaction". Political central-

ism has removed these mediating institutions. That Mr Davies's home base in Wales was behind him was of no account. Mr Mandelson's supporters in his department or his constituency were nothing com-pared with "how it looked in the press". Mr Hod-

die's record as a football coach was nothing when the political spin was against him. There were no half punishments available to these men. "Must go" is stronger than "is censured" or "says sorry". The law demands great tenderness towards humble employees these days. Perhaps in reaction, we treat public figures with facile ruthlessness.

I almost respect those who survive. Robin Cook must at present conduct his duties as Foreign Secretary while his former wife discloses to the press the most intimate details of their marriage. There is no conceivable public benefit in this, only personal revenge. The intrusion on Mr Cook's privacy is monstrous and he has no defence, given the weakness of the press complaint machinery. The American philosopher Thomas Nagel, commenting on the Clinton case, recently drew attention to the need of any human personality for layers of intimacy defended by privacy. The potential for hurt in human relations is infinite, he said. An inner life is essential. So too are the inner privacies and confidences of family and friends. Public figures without such layers are hollow and probably dangerous

These layers are protected by conventions of reticence, sometimes even of lies, which society has learnt to respect. There are "questions a man does not ask, and a lady does not answer", and vice versa. A lawyer or a journalist can tear away such conventions and shout "lies and hypocrisy". But to what good? Nagel describes as "nauseating" the current media humbug that "Ameri-cans cannot trust their leaders when that trust is damaged by a sexual lie". Every poll says that Americans do respect the conventions of privacy, even in a reprobate such as

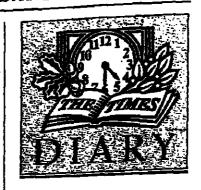
hen trial by ordeal was abolished by Pope Innocent III in favour of "high-tech" torture, the old guard protested. They pointed out that torture was cruel, secretive and biased to the prosecution. Ordeal had been a voluntary lie-detector test, conducted in public but with judgment postponed to await the healing process. Final decision lay with the authorities. Over half of recorded cases were acquittals. Historians came to look on "the ordeal" with favour as a check on mob justice. It worked. Trial by the press is more like torture. The prosecution is in the lead throughout. The victim can choose whether to accept guilt and execution or die on the rack. Few escape.

There is an alternative to this deplorable state of affairs. It is for those who hold democratic power to treat the press as critic but not master. The phrase, "the press made it impossible for him to stay in office" is a cry of impotence, sign of ical culture. Public figures should render to the public those things that are properly the publics, and take the occasional risk in doing so. They should not be held accountable to the public for their private lives or beliefs. That way they become dehumanised. But this means politics seizing back the power it has casually ceded to the press. I see no sign of it at present.

comment@the-times.co.uk

the excavation, which looks like a

gravel pit. They are threatene



High and dry

JONATHAN AITKEN is to fly into battle with the Duke of Gloucester and Lord Hattersley to ban millenarian celebrations in Westminster.

A twin attack from a conserva-tion group and the Westminster Society looks likely to leave Tony Blair's plan for all-night milennium drinking high and dry. The prospect of Westminster — including Trafalgar Square — being clogged with sated revellers has brought local toffs out in a flush.

"We have made our points to the council," says Sir John Bailey, chairman of the Westminster Society (run by the Duke of Gloucester and Dr Wesley Carr, the Dean of Westminster). "Our fear is that there will be 36 hours drinking every new year from now on."

Next month the Thorney Island Society eco-warriors (Alan Duncan, Hatters and Aitken) will discuss strategy. The Tory council is favour-ably inclined. Aitken has a possible escape: a stint in the clink.

●THE secret of Ann Widdecombe's striking appearance: black dye. "Oh yes, I do have my hair coloured," she tells me. "I don't like grey. My own is white."

Type cast?

MICK JAGGER is to play Dylan Thomas (right) in a film of the poet's life. The Rolling Stone (left), scratchy after his split from Jerry



Films (the clever name for his outfit) to make Map of Love, a and binge booking. Says a drum stick: "Mick has his eye on the part". Ah, poetry.

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♠ A RABBI and professor of Judaism is to inspire debate in NW11 by claiming that Hitler was neither mad nor evil, but rather motivated by Utopian, utilitarian ideals. Dan Čohn-Sherbok, of the University of Wales, says: "We want to present Hitler as the embodiment of evil but that's a mistake. They were idealists with a deranged ideolo-

Flirty Francis

FRANCIS MAUDE has invited "red" Oskar Lafontaine to the House of Commons. His plan: for Oskar to address the finance committee where he will proclaim need for tax harmonisation pleasing, no doubt, that cautious Europhile, Gordon Brown, Francis has more stunts than Evil Knievel.



i.

COULD Frank Warren be a poor loser? The boxing promoter is writing to Lord Irvine of Lairg to grumble about links between Don grumote about times between Don-King's lawyers and Sir Gavin Lightman, the judge in the case that cost Warren E7 million. He moans that the judge came from the same set as Michael Briggs, the American promoter's brief. Trevor Asserson, King's solicitor, also attended the wedding of Lightman's daughter during the case. So why didn't he object earlier?

School ties

PROUDLY déclassé. Sir Robin Janvrin, the Queen's new Private Secretary, differs from earlier courtiers. Like the late Sir Alan Lascelles — flunkey to three kings and the Queen - Sir Robin attended Marlborough, in contrast to Old Etonian Sir Robert Fellowes. Sir Robin has no hang up about his education while Sir Alan was sniffy about his old school mates: "It was not merely that they knew nothing of the people I knew, but their grandfathers had been county cricketers and mine were masters of the Bramham Moor hunt."

JASPER GERARD

'Clearing out the screen of last night's crop of useless, otiose and unintelligible e-mails is like mucking out the pigsty by hand' served, even by Philthreatened by water flooding into

ools predicted that this age would be the end of the written word. Writing was about to be replaced by the more immediate media of voice-tovoice communication on personal mobile television and internet waffle-and-video-ins. Wrong. More people are scribbling (usually illegibly) more than ever before, for e-mail, personal publication and fax. And this popularisation of the written word is a democratic increment. But more has meant worse. Clearing the screen of last night's crop of useless, otiose and unintelligible e-mails is like mucking out the pigsty by hand not forklift, or

This was also meant to be the end of the age of paper. We were going to live in homes and offices without paper, where we would communicate by electronic screen and voice. Wrong again. Ever vaster daily avalanches of

paper bury us at home and at work. I do not want the Royal Bank of Scotland to invent exciting new accounts that will win me discounts in restaurants, on foreign holidays and for accident insurance. Particularly I do not want them to waste my money on glossy and turgid packages (with "free gifts" of key-rings) advertising their new offer to longstanding and valued customers. Most particularly, I do not want Dalek Irish underpaid voices to cold-call me on the telephone to ask whether I have read the package. Who has time to read such a mountain of crap? It goes straight into the Moloch

merry-go-round for recycling. All that I want from my bank is that it puts up with my overdraft and does not humiliate me publicly at the hole-in-thewall. The same, mutatis muten by the MD with the help of tandis (an economical Latin

phrase that deserves to be pre-

Philip istine new lawyers) goes for insurance Howard tional Trust. British Telecom and all other firms that assume that punters have nothing better to do than to read their newsletters and spe-

should stick to their lasts. The prose is so turgid and complacent that it must have been written by senior management. Like cinema companies, they are too mean and too thick to engage professionals to write their screenplays or

cial offers just for

you, Mr Mug. They

special offer puffs. Paper will tolerate anything. Even special offers to longstanding and valued customers writ-

the chairman and a team of

American universiearly drafts and castheir university pres-ses stop publishing poetry by living authors, would starve the horse to death and prize his turds. So our age suffers from a mountain of

marketing advisers.

misused and unread paper.

It is a bitter irony that while we moderns groan under this paper mountain, we are allowing some of the oldest and most interesting paper in the world to decay. As Richard Owen has reported for us, excavation of the lost Vesuvian library under Herculaneum has ceased. Funds have run out because of Italian political wrangling. One third of the villa has been excavated, producing nearly 2,000 papyrus scrolls of early Greek philosophy and lit crit. They were packed in boxes, presumably for evacuation as Vesuvius erupted in AD79. Who knows what lost treasures lie in the Latin library in the two terraces that are still buried beneath the lava and hardened tufa of 19 centuries? Philodemus, who collected the

libraries, was the teacher of Virgil, friend of Horace, admired by Ovid, imitated by Propertius. Even Cicero, who prosecuted for corruption Piso, the owner of the magnificent villa, admired his guest and librarian, Philodemus.

here is gold in those old papers. Diggers have already found some Lucretius (confirming an emendation by Housman), Ennius and two acts of a comedy by Caecilius Statius (the Roman equivalent of Tom Stoppard). They are now

by fire. Vesuvius is not dead. It is spewing smoke and magma as alarmingly as it does in Ingres's portrait of Caroline Murat, Queen (if it needs one) of Naples. Archaeologists do not value old paper as much as the boat and Temple of the Muses they have found. But the charred paper under Herculaneum is literally priceless. If the Italians cannot raise the money to excavate it, the Getty Museum at Malibu (modelled on the Villa of the Papiri) should pay for it. Or Unesco. Or the Royal Bank of Scotland. If they found poems by Virgil or Horace, the find would repay the excavation a million times. But this project is not about profit. Let us hope that the paper we leave for 4000AD

contains more than special offers

for valued customers.

IRA's admission that renegade republicans

have appropriated its weapons. Why

weren't they decommissioned before?

Throughout the peace process the IRA and

Sinn Fein have insisted that requests for

the decommissioning of illegal weapons

were distractions. As long as political

progress sustained their ceasefire, they

argued, then Unionist concerns were

mischievous and misplaced. But now we

know that groups such as the dissidents

behind the Omagh bombing were using

material from IRA stockpiles. The republi-

can objections to decommissioning were

always an affront to democracy. Now, by

the IRA's own admission, the refusal to

decommission has led directly to the

Why, then, did the IRA choose to make

this announcement? The answer lies in the

faltering progress of the peace process.

Republicans realise the Good Friday

Agreement is under strain, and they are

responsible. The wave of recent punish-

ment beatings, more properly thought of as

targeted terrorist torture, has undermined

faith in the willingness of paramilitaries to

embrace democracy. The continued cam-

paign of intimidation has stiffened Union-

ist resolve not to accept republican

participation in Northern Ireland's new

Government without decommissioning.

Quite rightly, they object to sharing power

with armed thugs whose answer to dissent

is the cocked armalite. The refusal of the

IRA and loyalists to abandon the gun could

bring the peace process to a stuttering halt.

avoid the culpability for such a failure. And

yesterday's statement was a choreo-

graphed move in their dance away from

blame. By announcing that its own

weapons were in the hands of renegades

which it claimed not to be able to control,

the IRA sought to suggest that it could not

There may be no exact American equiva-

lent of the phrase "time to draw stumps"

but with that sentiment the Senate should

seek to conclude the trial of President

Clinton. Senators are currently engaged in

a series of debates and votes that will

decide whether their inquiry ends next

week or continues for an unknown

duration. Testimony has been taken from

Monica Lewinsky, Vernon Jordan and

Sidney Blumenthal and the video-tape has

been seen by every member of the Senate.

There is no reason to believe that any vital

new material has emerged nor that more

would if the exercise were repeated on the

floor of the chamber. The Senate should

This is not to suggest that Mr Clinton's

lawyers have produced compelling argu-

ments that he is innocent of perjury or

obstruction of justice. The managers from

the House of Representatives outlined a

powerful case against the President. The

defence of Mr Clinton consisted of the

claim that the charges he faced were

"vague" and that he might have perjured

himself in the original Paula Jones case but

not in the grand jury appearance that is

formally cited in the articles of impeach-

ment. Beyond that, the White House has

sought to contrast the gender and racial

diversity of its legal team with the

uniformly white, male, conservative House

prosecutors - as if this had the remotest

Nor has it been demonstrated that the

case against the President falls short of the

"high crimes and misdemeanours" re-

quired for his conviction. In the 1980s

Senators expelled three federal judges from

the bench on the issue of perjury. In one

case, the individual concerned had actually

been acquitted at the criminal trial in

which his allegedly false evidence was

relevance to Mr Clinton's legal standing.

come to a decision.

Republicans are particularly desperate to

murder of innocents.

THE TIMES

THE BLAME GAME

Republicans distance themselves from a faltering peace

There is only one obvious response to the be held responsible for recent casualties.

The statement was also calculated, para-

doxically, to bolster the position of the Sinn

Fein leadership by drawing attention to a

weakness. Emphasising the existence, and

offensive capacity, of dissident republicans

makes it easier for Gerry Adams to argue

that he cannot move too fast. Ask too much

of me, he seeks to suggest, and these

The Government must be alive to the

cynical intent behind the IRA's words. It

can do so by making clear that there is no

question where blame lies for Ulster's

enduring misery. The IRA has, in the past,

dealt ruthlessly with dissent and is

manipulating the existence of "renegades"

to escape its responsibilities. It cannot be

allowed to evade responsibility for the use

of its arms, and it must not be allowed to

duck the requirement of decommissioning.

Northern Ireland's new executive is due to

be formed on March 10. There is no

prospect of Unionist participation without

a handover of IRA arms. Instead of calling

upon all sides to make sacrifices, the

Government should emphasise that the

only real obstacle to progress is paramili-

tary obduracy. A moratorium on prisoner

releases while the punishment beatings

continue would be a suitable sign of

resolution. Ministers would then carry

greater conviction when they say, as they

must, that no executive will be called into

Northern Ireland's First Minister-Desig-

nate, David Trimble, has travelled well in

advance of his party to agree far-reaching

changes which would grant nationalist

Ireland an historically momentous role in

the running of Ulster. He cannot be faulted

for courage. If ministers refuse to lay the

blame for the looming impasse at the IRA's

door now then they must expect to share

submitted. In another, Harry Claiborne

lost his position in 1986 for knowingly

understating his income on a tax return.

One Senator said then that "an individual

guilty of such reprehensible conduct ought

not to be permitted to exercise the awesome

powers which the Constitution entrusts to

(him)." Al Gore appears to have changed

There is no reason in theory why a

President and federal judge should be

treated differently. In political practice,

however, critical distinctions exist between

them. There is but one President and that

individual is elected by the entire nation.

The framers of the American Constitution

did not design and did not desire a

presidency based on direct democratic

selection. This, though, is the nature of the

institution that the Senate today faces.

Kenneth Starr has put forward the

material against Mr Clinton; Congress has

provided it a very prominent platform;

Americans have chosen to spurn every

A further extension of this trial will not

alter anything. The votes do not exist to

convict Mr Clinton. It may be, should be,

upsetting for Republicans to see the words

of George Washington upstaged by the

opinion polls of George Gallup. They must

nonetheless prepare an exit strategy. This

should not be a "finding of the facts"

motion that deems Mr Clinton guilty but

keeps him in the Oval Office. That device is

blatantly unconstitutional. If a majority of

Senators does not want to award Mr

Clinton the undue satisfaction of an

acquittal then they should adjourn his trial

indefinitely. Mr Starr will have his chance

to pursue the President in the criminal

courts but would be wise to wait until his

term is completed. The Senate should

decide to leave him to it.

single opportunity to endorse it.

his mind on such matters 13 years later.

the responsibility for tragic failure.

CONVICTION POLITICS

The Senate will not benefit from an extended Clinton trial

being until decommissioning begins.

Ministers cannot wait upon events.

hotheads will go further.



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WOMEN'S ROCK

A chance to meet the Casanovas of the crofts

steep cliffs.

dwindles and dies.

When the Romans were languishing for want of womenfolk they adopted blunt tactics: they swiped their neighbours' wives and unsuspecting Sabines found themselves seized from their ringside seats as they sat admiring the gladatorial games. What proved a perfectly effective method for the ancients sits ill at ease with modern tastes. Less bellicose populations must adopt more diplomatic methods. And the lonesome inhabitants of Scotland's Outer Isles, where men enormously outnumber women, have turned to EU bureaucrats instead. A European Community grant of some £700,000 is being made to lure women to the Hebrides.

The sparse, windswept landscapes of North Uist and the adjoining Benbecula support a scattered and scanty population. The traditional crofter's or fisherman's life is harsh. Working days are long and lonely, social life is limited and usually based around the copious consumption of alcohol. There are only basic supply shops and no cinema. The weekly shopping must be wheeled by barrow across boggy moors. Although outsiders may find this remoteness quaint or romantic, those brought up

to such rigour find in it small allure. Girls who leave school and travel to the mainland for further education are beguiled by the city. Others see marriage to

an outsider - to soldiers from the Benbecula barracks, or holidaymakers, even - as a passport to freedom. And with a dwindling female population, a traditional mode of life will eventually wither and disappear as it did on St Kilda which. evacuated in the 1930s, is now home only to the puffins and fulmars which nest on its

The proposed EU grant to North Uist and Benbecula is intended to coax new businesses to the islands, or tempt already established ones to relocate. Women will be especially encouraged to take up the proffered funds. Advances in technology make some schemes increasingly viable. Whether mainland incomers will be tempted into wedlock by an army of raddled batchelors is unlikely. The shy Casanovas of the crofts will first have to update their ideas about sexual equality. Many contemporary woman will not be prepared to stay meekly at home attending to the crowdie and the cows, washing, cooking and rearing children, while the menfolk down drams in the nearest pub. But, if an EU grant succeeds in attracting not only women but whole families to these rocky outcrops, it will have fulfilled its most valuable purpose, a relevant and diverse economy where a community now

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

police no-go areas

From Mr James Bell

Sir. Martin Fletcher reports today on Vincent McKenna, another former IRA man who has turned away from violence and now faces injury, possi-bly death, at the hands of his former comrades. The Times is right to highlight his story, and that of Sean O'Callaghan who finds himself in the same dreadful situation (article, January 26).

There is irony — yet also. I believe, hope — in the fact that I, an expat Ulster Protestant, can find myself in total accord with the perceptions, hopes and fears of ex-IRA activists.

That such concordance between us

- and, I suspect, many tens of thousands of so-called ordinary people in Northern Ireland - should be in any way surprising is simply another as-pect of the general indifference towards affairs in Ulster that most UK citizens and most politicians exhibit daily. We are all tired of the anodyne reporting of the starts and stops of the so-called "peace process".

It is beyond belief that Messrs

Adams and McGuinness can plead a "policing vacuum" as the cause of the barbarous thuggery being practised on both sides of the sectarian divide. Were it to be more widely known in the rest of the UK, where there are no no-go areas, that there are places in Ulster where our police force is afraid (or forbidden) to go, there would be public outrage.

Why do our political masters not only tolerate this situation, but now actively condone it by letting yet more

thigs loose every day?
It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that this Government is more concerned with its footnote in history as having, at last, solved the "Irish problem". Well, history is a harsh judge and may well conclude that Blair's Government succumbed to the threats and blandishments of a bunch of gangsters, and left the vast majority of the citizens of Ulster as forgotten. citizens of the United Kingdom.

I remain, your obedient, if perplexed servant, JÁMÉS BELL. 26 Parson's Mead. Flax Bourton, Bristol BS48 IUH. February 4.

Institutional racism

From Canon Ivor Smith-Cameron

Sir, The Metropolitan Police Service has been accused of institutional racism (letters, January 30). Sir Paul Condon, the Commissioner, refused to accept that charge at the Stephen Lawrence inquiry last July, although he as good as admits to it in his interview today with Vanora Bennett: "Is there racism in the police? Yes. Is it more than a few bad apples? Yes.

As a member of the Church of England I have long believed it to suffer from institutional racism, and this has snurred me to work to eradicate this blemish. I do not believe that my loyalty and devotion to the Church and her members have been impaired.

Unless we acknowledge what is wrong with us it is impossible to be able to do anything about it. Acknowledging a fault in an institution does not necessarily imply any disloyalty to its members.

Yours sincerely, IVOR SMITH-CAMERON (Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen). 100 Prince of Wales Drive, SWII 4BD. February 2.

Police commended

From Dr Muriel G. Yates

Sir, Last week, as the mother of one of the commended officers, I had the pri-vilege of attending the Metropolitan Police Assistant Commissioner's commendation ceremony, 2 Area (North West). It was a delightful family occasion, with an air of informality mixed with the seriousness of the event.

As I listened to the reading of the citations listing the devotion to duty. professionalism, and sheer bravery of these young officers, all going far beyond the call of duty. I asked myself why we do not hear more about these things. Why is it always the mistakes and misdemeanours of the very few which reach the press and television?

I felt very proud that day, and ex-tremely grateful to all these men and women in our police forces throughout the country who contribute so much to making Britain a better and safer place to live in.

Yours sincerely. MURIEL G. YATES, 7 Church Gardens, Ealing, W5 4HH.

Euro 'target date'

From Mr Neil Kinnock

Sir. I haven't "called on the Government to set a target date for joining the euro" (report, January 30). in answer to questions about Mr Alan Donnelly's proposal to that effect, I've said that his call was a good way of stimulating debate but that, apart from its unlikelihood, the practicality of such a stratagem was very doubtful.

NEIL KINNOCK, The European Commission, Rue de la Loi 200, B-1049 Brussels. February 1.

Mayhem in Ulster Karma and the judgment of God

From the Reverend Canon John Halliburton,

Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral

Sir. For reasons not fully understood by most of us. Glenn Hoddle has resorted to the wisdom of the East in order to answer that eternal question, why do the innocent suffer (letters, February 1, 3 and 4). He has chosen the well-known

path, which attributes human suffering to human misconduct, a position taken up by Job's three friends as re-corded in the Old Testament, but which was seriously challenged by Job's contemporaries and by many after him. Belief in retribution in this life consequent upon failures in a previous existence certainly does not belong to the contemporary Christianity to which Mr Hoddle is said to

have become committed. Those of us who have lived through the memories of the Holocaust and the horrors of modern genocide and the abuse of human rights will know that belief in the goodness of God and the ultimate purpose of creation has been seriously damaged by those who have adopted the view that human suffering is the consequence of human

Millions today now do not believe in God because he did not come to the rescue of the victims of Auschwitz, nor does he seem to visit the torture camps of Latin America and beyond.

It would appear that Hoddle has no theology of the God who suffers beside us, goes with us into the gas chamber, suffers with us in the prison yards of South America. His God is. apparently, not the Christ of Calvary, only the God who sits in judgment and condemns people for their weakness and their indiscretions.

Whom would your readers choose? The Christ of Calvary who loves the penitent thief, or the Judge who condemns his victims to a wheelchair and tells them that it is their fault that they cannot walk?

Yours faithfully, JOHN HALLIBURTON, Chancellor, St Paul's Cathedral, 1 Amen Court, EC4M 7BU. yhu99@dial.pipex.com February 4.

From Mr Michael Varcoe-Cocks

dle publicly admitted making a "seri-ous error of judgment" that had caused pain to a number of people, for which he apologised, and (later editions) that he "is now expected to receive a £500,000 payoff, representing the remaining 18 months of his contract".

If this "serious error of judgment" his contract had he stayed.

If it was not a breach of his contract. those running the FA are even more incompetent than they have appeared from the past few years.

February 3.

From Mr Don Bradbury

Sir, Half a million pounds for doing nothing for 18 months; nice work if you can get it. My word, how badly we treat our failures in this country. Hoddle couldn't have organised it better if he'd tried.

Yours faithfully. DON BRADBURY, 6 Solway Rise, Dronfield Woodhouse, Sheffield S18 8ZR.

Winter fuel payments

From Dr Gary Kitchen

Sir, Sally Levett (letter, January 23) is right to suggest that elderly people would be reluctant to take winter fuel payments from the State if left to claim for themselves. This resistance is very marked in relation to meanstested benefits such as income sup-port, where up to a million pensioners do not claim their entitlement.

There is more at stake here than simple pride. The decline of the pension is an important factor in fuel poverty. In our experience pensioners believe it to be wrong that the basic state pension has been allowed to dwindle over the years against average earnings, to the extent that, in April, for a single pensioner it will be far below the income support level of £75. What was the point in their making a lifetime of national insurance contributions if not to earn the right to an adequate basic pension on retirement? And how can a pension level below the poverty safety net be thought adequate?

Our view is that the basic pension level should be raised in April to at least the income support personal allowance, as a first step towards rectifying this injustice.

Yours sincerely. **GARY KITCHEN** (National Organiser). National Pensioners Convention, 47 Chalton Street, NWI 1HY. pensioner@compuserve.com January 25.

From Mr Ganesh Lall

Sir, Karma is the spiritual equivalent of the physical law of cause and effect. In the exercise of free will each individual, and no one else, is held responsible for the consequence of his or

her action. God does not enter the

equation. Hinduism does not believe in sin and punishment, only in errors and the correction of errors. It is not judgmental. Hindu belief in karma is on all fours with the Judaic religions: where it parts company is in extending the belief to govern the progress of preceding and succeeding lives. This is consistent with the belief of Hindus in the spiritual evolution of the soul until it becomes one with the Uni-

versal Spirit in the state of Nirvana. Incidentally, karma represents progression, not regression. Humans do not come back as animals, only with some of their traits.

I am, yours respectfully, GANESH LALL Burrow Walk, SE21 8LY.

From Professor Ian Markham

Sir, It is important to distinguish between Hoddle's view of disability and the belief in reincarnation and karma that underpinned it. Plenty of Hindus would want to dissociate themselves from the former but affirm the latter.

In our increasingly diverse society. it would be outrageous to end up with a situation in which a Hindu could not be appointed as England coach.

Sincerely. IAN MARKHAM (Liverpool Professor of Theology and Public Life). Liverpool Hope University College, Hope Park, Liverpool L16 9JT. February 1.

From Dr L. L. Katan

religious beliefs.

Yours sincerely.

February 2.

Yours faithfully.

From Mr Ken Broad

go quickly I say!

Yours sincerely.

KEN BROAD.

February 3.

TRICIA MORGAN.

Sir, If football can become a religion (as it has), why should not religion become a political football?

LEO KATAN, 14 Ingram House, Park Road. Hampton Wick, Surrey KT1 4BA. February 2.

dom of speech to be one of the most

fundamental of human rights. I find it

astonishing — frightening, really — that I am living in a land where some-

one can be sacked for expressing his

It is just such intolerance in this

country that led to the founding of my

own nation. I am dismayed to find

that such attitudes still prevail.

44 Peppard Road, Maidenbower,

Crawley, West Sussex RH10 7QS.

From Ms Belinda Hayter-Hames

speech nowadays are the media.

BELINDA HAYTER-HAMES,

Sir, It is extraordinary that the only

people allowed complete freedom of

5 Moray Place, Edinburgh EH3 6DS.

Sir. I was astounded to read some of

the things Howard Wilkinson said

yesterday, as reported by Matt Dickin-

Just how much longer do we have to

put up with this man as caretaker

manager of the England team? Surely

the time has come for him to go - and

son in your sports pages today.

Hoddle trouble

Sir, You report today that Glenn Hod-

was a breach of his contract with the FA. It is completely unacceptable that the FA is considering paying him what he would have received under

Yours faithfully. MICHAEL VARCOE-COCKS, 5 Brackenbury Road, W6 0BE.

From Mrs Tricia Morgan Sir. As an American, I hold the free-

February 4. From Sir Ronald McIntosh

Manor Court, Church Aston.

Newport, Shropshire TFI0 9JJ.

Sir, I imagine that the great majority of better-off pensioners will applaud Professor Elkan's suggestion (letter. January 16) that they should pass on to an appropriate charity the winter fuel payments they receive from the Department of Social Security. Some already do this: probably many more support the idea in principle but for one reason or another do not get

around to doing anything about it. Before making winter fuel payments the department sends every pensioner a letter giving details of the amount involved and other relevant information. I hope that on the next occasion it may be willing to give pensioners who feel they do not need the payment the option to ask for it to be paid instead to a charitable fund which can ensure that it reaches those who do.

I am sure that the established charities for the elderly would be glad to administer such a scheme, which could attract a substantial sum of money every winter. It would certainly give more effective help to those in need than the present arrangement does, at no extra cost to the taxpayer.

Yours faithfully, RONALD McINTOSH. 24 Ponsonby Terrace, SWIP 4QA. January 24.

> Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Minimum wage threat to charities

From the Reverend David Weekes

Sir, The National Minimum Wage Act comes into force in just over two months' time. I write to publicise the plight of young people who are engaged by charines as volunteer

· As well as nationals, young people from overseas have been able to enjoy an experience of working for a charity in Britain for up to one year through a long-standing concession outside the immigration rules.

Unless the present draft regulations are suitably amended, this kind of opportunity will no longer be economically viable. The Act will not allow us to continue with our present residential remuneration package in cash and kind (which is exactly tailored to this kind of opportunity). The total value of such emoluments is already in excess of what will be required in

cash by the NMW. Moreover, the Act would actually force us to pay such workers a package with a total value of around 50 per cent above the NMW, since although it is greatly to their advantage that our volunteer workers must be residential the regulations only allow a deduction for payments in kind of £20 per week

for accommodation. It is not practical for us to give our volunteers less benefit in kind than accommodation, heat, light and all meals and snacks. We calculate that the present cash value of this is about £85 per week. Unless the regulations are amended, the Act will effectively require us to pay each volunteer the value of such benefits worth at least

£65 per week on top of the NMW. Many charities are in jeopardy because of an Act which was presum-ably intended to address completely different issues. Members of religious communities may be equally at risk for similar reasons. Certainly au pairs seem to be adversely affected (letters, January 27 and 30).

Yours faithfully. DAVID WEEKES (Warden), Lee Abbey International Students' Club. 57-67 Lexham Gardens, W8 6JJ. January 30.

'Grey-power' cars

From Mr Stirling Moss

Sir, I was surprised to read (January 27) that I am helping to build the first motor car designed for the ageing driver. I must apologise to your reporter for the confusion 1 appear to have caused him with regard to my involvement in this research project.

I was happy to be asked by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers to help them draw attention to the launch of a programme they are fundresearch of automotive ergonomics for the older driver. In a year's time, I hope I will again be present when they report on their findings.

Ageing drivers are a population group that is growing - both numerically and as a proportion of overall road users - and, as such, the merits of taking a measured approach to meet their changing needs are obvious. Adjusting aspects of car access. seating, controls, instruments and outside view could assist in making cars easier, more comfortable and, above all, safer to drive.

At no time would I suggest that sports cars should be turned into invalid carriages; only that mainstream models should take account of the older driver, ultimately to the benefit of us all Like it or not, if not there already, inevitably we will all, one day, become that "older driver".

Yours faithfully, STIRLING MOSS. 46 Shepherd Street, WIY 8JN. January 28.

Near miss

From Mr Alfred Brendel, Hon KBE

Sir. According to your paper (January 30). Goethe, whose 250th birthday anniversary is celebrated by the "Teutonic world" (read: the German-speaking countries), was a "near-genius". May I suggest that you call Richard

III a near-villain, and the earthquake in Colombia a near-disaster?

ALFRED BRENDEL c/o Ingpen & Williams, 26 Wadham Road, SW15 2LR. February 1.

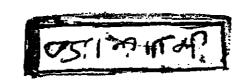
Knot rated

From Professor Ian Fells

Sir. I was disappointed that your article on ties ("Does a bit of cloth round the neck still inspire respect?", February I) made no mention of bow-ties. I have worn one ever since I was a research student when a normal tie tended to fall into my experimental equipment. I have since introduced them to my surgeon friends who do not like to get blood on their ties when

dealing with emergencies. The only downside is the assumption, occasionally made by TV interviewers and the like, that one is either an architect or a Liberal Democrat or

Yours faithfully, IAN FELLS. 29 Rectory Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 IYB. February 1.





COURT CIRCULAR

this afternoon visited the Soho Centre for Health and Care, 29-30

Soho Square, Westminster, Lon-

Her Royal Highness, Patron, The 1999 World Schools Debating

Championships, this evening at-tended a Reception at the Locarno

Suite, Foreign and Common-wealth Office, King Charles Street,

February 4: The Princess Marga-

ret, Countess of Snowdon, President, The Royal Ballet, this after-

noon attended the Ursula Moreton Choreographic Competition at the Royal Ballet School, Talgarth Road, London, W14.

ST JAMES'S PALACE February 4: The Duke of Kent, Chairman, this evening attended a farewell dinner for the National

Electronics Council at Savoy Place, London WC2.

Sir Robert Atkins, former MP, 53;

Sir Norman Blacklock, urologist,

71; Mr Jasper Clutterbuck, former

non-executive chairman, Morland and Company, 64: Major-General

Sir Simon Cooper, Master of HM's Household, 63; Mr Ian

Findlay, former chairman, Lloyd's. 81; Lord Gibson, 83; Mrs Molly

Hattersley (Lady Hattersley), edu-cationist, 68; Miss Susan Hill,

novelist and playwright. 57; the Hon Douglas Hogg, QC. MP, 54; General Sir Geoffrey Howlett. 69;

Mr M.E.P. Jones, director, National Museums of Scotland, 48; Mr

at Museums of Scottand, 48; Mr Dennis Kennedy, former chair-man and managing director. Hon-eywell, 64; Lord Justice Morritt, 61; Professor A.M. Neville, former Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Dundee University, 76; Dr Eliza-beth Neville, Chief Constable of Witshire, 46; Miss Charlotte Ram-

pling, actress, 53; Canon Colin

Semper, former Provost of Coven-try, 61: Sir Michael Simpson-Orle-

bar, former diplomat, 67; Sir Rodney Sweetnam, former presi-

dent, Royal College of Surgeons, 72: Lord Williams of Mostyn, QC,

58; Sir Leslie Young, former chairman, British Waterways Board, 74.

Westminster, London SW1.

KENSINGTON PALACE

SANDRINGHAM HOUSE February 4: The Queen has been graciously pleased, on the retire-ment of Sir Robert Fellowes, to appoint Sir Robin Janvrin Private Secretary. Mrs Mary Francis Dep-uty Private Secretary and Mr Tim Hitchens Assistant Private Secretary to Her Majesty.

ST JAMES'S PALACE February 4: The Prince of Wales this morning was represented at the Funeral of Mrs Ulrica Murray-Smith at Loughborough Cremato rium. Leicestershire, by Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Miller.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 4: The Duke of York, Patron. The London Contempo-rary Dance Trust, visited The Place, London WCI, to meet the new Chairman and view rebears-

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 4: The Princess Royal

Royal engagements | Birthdays The Prince of Wales will visit Park today

Farm, Wellow, Nottinghamshire at 10.30; will open the new Clarendon College, Nottingham, at 11.45; will visit the Macedon Trust's Albion Nightshelter, Not-tingham, at 1.35; and will visit the Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, at 2.35, to open the new multi-faith centre and the new parents overnight stay unit. The Princess Royal, as president The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will attend a luncheon at Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland, Henry Duncan House, 120 George Street, Edinburgh, at noon; will open the Edinburgh Academy's Sports Complex, 42 Henderson Row, Edinburgh, at 2.10: will be admitted an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, George Street, at 4.20; and will attend a dinner for Marie

Curie Cancer Care at Edinburgh The Duke of Kent will visit Blease Anaesthesia Systems, Beech House, Chiltern Court, Chesham, Buckinghamshire; and as patron, the Stoke Mandeville Burns and Reconstructive Surgery Research Trust, will attend a luncheon and seminar at Stoke Mandeville Hos-pital, Aylesbury.

Sherborne School for Girls

Scholarship Awards for Septern-The following girls have been awarded Scholarships from Sep-

æmber 1999: Academic Scholas First Scholarshins: Rose Reer.

rursi Scholarships Rose Beer, Hazel-grove House: Katherine Sutite. Sher-borne Preparatory School. Second Scholarships: Harriet Hawkstey. Port Regis: Philippa de Fonblanque. King's Hall. Third Scholarship: Felicia Line, Salis-bury Cathedral School Exhibition: Harriet Newman, Mount House School.

Music Scholarships
Major Scholarships Charlotte Newman.

Sherborne School for Girls: Felicia Line, Salisbury Cathedral School. Minor Scholarships: Harriet Newman, Mount House School: Erika Maude, Home taught.

Exhibitions: Harrier Hawksley. Port
Regis: Kristabelle Williams, Sherborne School for Girls.

Art Scholarships Major Art Award Chafyn Grove Scho Minor Art Award: Rosanne Millfield Preparatory School. Sixth Form Scholarshins Major Scholarships: Aliette Boshier Millfield School; Olga Voronina, Sher-borne School for Girls.

Reception

Sherborne School for Girls.

English-Speaking Union The Princess Royal. Patron of the World Schools Debating Champi-onships, attended a reception held yesterday in the Locarno Suite, Foreign and Commonwealth Of-fice. Baroness Brigstocke, Chair-man of the ESU, which organised the championships, was the host. Lady Brigstocke and Mrs Valerie Mitchell, director-general, re-ceived the guests who included the Premier of Bermuda and Mem-bers of the Diplomatic Corps.

V&A fights to keep statue of Charles I

By Dalya Alberge ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE Victoria and Albert Museum is desperately appealing for help to prevent an historic bronze bust of Charles I from leaving Brit-

The sculpture, which is just 7in high, dates from the mid-1630s and is the only known bust of the king by the Anglo-Italian sculptor Francesco Fanelli, whose title was Sculptor to the King.

Paul Williamson, chief curator of sculpture at the V&A, described it as the "finest sculptural likeness of the monarch to survive", a work of "exceptional quality".

Unless £240,000 is raised by April 18, observers fear the bust will go abroad. The Getty Museum in California is a likely destination.

The sculpture, which has never been exhibited in public before, has emerged 350 years after Charles I was beheaded.

It has been hidden away in private collections throughout its life. Exactly when it entered the collection of the Ionides family, which is selling it to cover inheritance tax, is unclear. The family, from whom the V&A received an important bequest of paintings, drawings and watercol-ours in 1900, is so keen to see the bust remain in Britain that it has loaned it to the V&A until April 18.

Through a private treaty sale, the price to the V&A would be £240,000. With grants from the art charity, the National Art Collections Fund, and elsewhere, the museum is £60,000 short of its target. If the museum fails to meet the April deadline, the

A service of thanksgiving for the

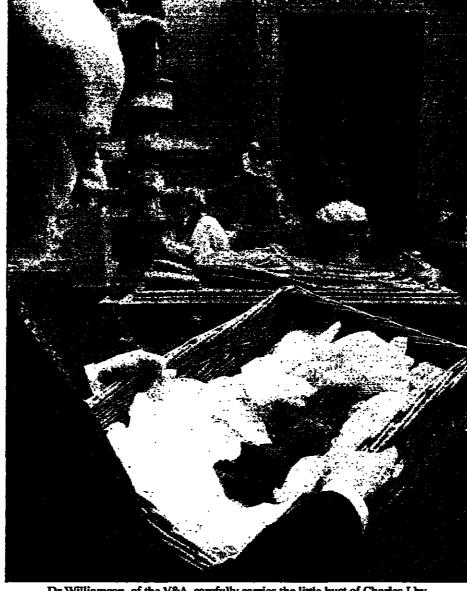
life of Sir William Royden Stuttaford, former Chairman of the Unit Trusts Association and President

of the National Union of Conserva-tive and Unionist Associations,

was held yesterday at the Church of St Margaret, Lothbury. The Rev Tom Farrell officiated and the Rev

Mr Tim Miller read Remember by Christina Rossetti and Mr William

Robin Elphick led the prayers. Lord Wakeham read the less



Dr Williamson, of the V&A, carefully carries the little bust of Charles I by Francesco Fanelli, which has been in private collections since its creation

as royal sculptor . . .

work reverts to its market "exact role played by Fanelli price of £350,000.

Fanelli was one of two royal artists, said Dr Williamson, The other was Hubert Le Sueur who was "nothing like as good", he said, but had "an inflated idea of his own importance". Fanelli's depiction is closest to Van Dyck's

mysterious as no records of large-scale commissions for the King survive; instead, his oeuvre consists primarily of small bronzes." The King is known to have particularly favoured small bronzes.

Documentary evidence, which first mentions him in striking portraits. Which first mentions him in Dr Williamson said that the 1605 in Genoa producing

works in marble, silver, ivory and bronze, shows that he was working at the English court by 1635, when he re-ceived a pension from the King. His title, Sculptor to the King, was one he dearly liked to use he inscribed it on the pedestal of a bronze bust of the ten-year-old Prince of Wales, later King Charles II, at Welbeck Abbey.

Memorial service

Ellenborough, Lord Farnham, Lord Lane of Horsell, Lord Feldman, Lord Jenkin of Roding, Lord Pender, Lord and Lady Gray, the Hon C TC Law (group-chairman, Towry Law Group) with Mr Douglas Black (chief executive); the Hon Michael Benson (representing the Chairman of Amvesses). The Hon Bernard Jenkin, MP, and Mrs Jenkin, the Hon Robert and Mrs Boccawen. Sir Martin Wedgewood, Sir Alastair and Lady Stewart. Lady Salt. Sir Jeneroy and Lady Stewart. Lady Salt. Sir Jeneroy and Lady Pleves. Sir John B Hall. Sir Jeneroy and Lady Pleves. Sir John B Hall. Sir Jeneroy and Lady Machechnie, Sir Michael Craig-Cooper, Sir Graham Macmillan, Sir Anthony Garner, Sir John Macmgan, Sir John Banham, Sir Patrick and a, Sir John:

Marchiani, Sr Annony Garrier, Sr John Morgan, Sir John Banham, Sir Patrick and Lady Lawrence, Sir Joseph and Lady Banard, Sir Robin Deak, Sir Andrew and Lady Seark, Sir Jeffery and Lady Bowman, Mr John and Ludy Margaret Glasse.

Mrs David Wanney, Mr Dentil Freeth, Mr Mark Rinner, Mr Pear Sedgevick, Mr J Michael Houre, Mr Christopher Szewartsmith, Mr and Mrs Martin Broat, Mr and Mrs Robert Banks, Mr J F Cullis, Mr A KS Franks, Mr Angus Ivory, Major-General and Mrs John Willis, Mr and Mrs Michael Ponnifer, Mr John Willis, Mr and Mrs Michael Ponnifer, Mr John Whimngdale, MP, Miss Audrey Head, Mr Malaise Reid-Soon, Mr Toby de Lotbiniere, Mr Hugh Mellor, Mr Richard Spring, MP, Miss Janqui Lait, Mr Howard Fught, MP, Carter, Mrs Charles Kennedy, Mr and Mrs John Hohroyd, Dr A Niven, Miss Kurenza Boscawen.

Dr and Mrs A McL Morrison, Mrs Brian Edwards, Mr Ian Bother, Mr Tim Stuttaford, son, read Footprints. Dr Tom Stuttaford, brother, gave Wester.

Lady Suttalord (widow), Mr Dominick Stumiford (sont), Mr and Mrs Justin Shingles and Mr and Mrs Anthony Morris-Ryon (sons-in-law and daughters). Mr Angus Grahame (stepton), Mr and Mrs Alexander Lew's (stepton-in-law and stepton), Mr Thornas Stuttaford, Mr and Mrs Indiana. John Cureis and Mr and Mrs John Cureis and Mr and Mrs John Cureis and Mr and Mrs B Portrick (brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law). Mr and Mrs Tim Purbrick, Mrs D Grahame, Miss E Grahame, Miss

Viscount Gough, Lady Wakeham, Lord

Loughton, MP, Mr Tom Durie, Mr Tim Ireland, Mr Mark Ireland, Mr J Ireland, Miss Clare Ireland, Ms Joanna, Colling-wood, Mr and Mrs M Tollemache, Mr and Mrs John Arlæll, Mr David Knapp, Mr Trevor Jones, Mr Robert Bruce, Dr A Yates, Mr and Mrs Roderick Playlair, Mr Christo-pher Bonnford, Professor and Mrs Peter Grootenhuis, Ms Diana Banks, Mr John Cze, Mr J Dent, Mr R Bateman,

Mr Chris Poole Secretary, National
Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations with other members of the associations
Mr Mark Powel (thick enceutive, Rathbook
Laurence Keen) with past and present

Laurence Keen) with past and present members of the groups Mr Christopher Taylor-Young (Traylor-Young Management Investment).

Mr Roger Adams (executive director, Closed End Funds, Warburg Dillon Read). Mr Geatham Ross Russell (thairman, Securities Instinue), Mr Joany), Mr John Manser (chairman, Robert Henting Holdings), Mr B D Lintasy, Mr Stuom Toynhee (enforcement), Mr Bound Graves (Lee & Pemberunys), Mr Stuom Toynhee (enforcement), Mr Androny Nott (director, Jupiter Asset Management), Mr Richard Peirson (director, Deptiter Asset Management), Mr Richard Management), Mr Richard Peirson (director, Deptiter), Mr Clive M Glichrist (managing director, Bestrustees), Mr Richard Managel-Jones (Brown, Shipley) and Co.)

Mr Andrew Winckier (chairman, UK Financial Services Regulatory Group, Erris & Young, Mr John P Southwell (Credit Lyonals Securities), Mr Tom Altwood (managing director, Intermediate Capital Group), Mr Paul Field (P A Feld), Mr Michael F Heathonar Amory fjoint deputy chief cercaine, huller International

Management, Mr. Nick Bensted-Smith girector, Chriswell Associations, Mr. Martin Trowell (group compliance officer, invesco, Mr. Julian Cotalet (Cazenove & Co) with Mr. J. W. Findley.

Mr. Mark Phythian-Adams (director of investment oruses, Henderson Investors) with Mr. Christopher Clarke (chief investment officer) and Mr. Kase Murphy: Mr. H. H. Hughes (Church Commissioners), Mr. Jerry Hayes (Panel: Magazine), Mr. and Mrs. Brian Lew's (North Essex Conservative Association), Mr. Peter Lumsden (Special Trustees).

Association). Mr Peter Lumsden (Special Trastees).
Mr Neil Oliver and Mrs Denise Everitt (University of Kent at Camerbury). Mrs E Rex (representing the Chairman of Essex County Council), Mr P A Revell-Smith (Ambient Media Carporation), Mr David Thorpe (Prienzks Ivory and Sime). Mr Noel Himon and Mr Peter Let (Talzover Panel) and many other friends and former colleagues.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.R. Angier and Miss F.M. Parker-Jervis The engagement is announced between Pairick, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Angier, of Ewelme, Oxfordshire, and Fiona, elder daughter of the late Mr John Parker-Jervis and of Mrs John Parker-Jervis, of Longworth, Oxfordshire.

Mr F.A. Felton and Mrs B.J. Bartlett The engagement is announced between Mr Frank Felton, of Hainault, Essex, and Mrs Eleanor Bartlett (nee Wilkinson), of

Mr P.O. Geach and Miss C.E. Chapman

The engagement is announced between Peter Orlando, son of John R. Geach, of Bishops Castle. Shronshire, and Susan L. Dix, of Cambridge, formerly Mr and Mrs John Geach, and Christina, daughter of Sir David Chapman, Bt, DL, and Lady Chapman, of Cleadon, Tyne and Wear.

Mr A. Oxley and Miss C.H. Blakely The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Colin Oxley, of York, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Blakely, of Bermuda.

and Miss J. Smith The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Harvey, of Ewshot, Parnham, Surrey, and Jacqueline, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Smith, of Oliver's Battery, Winchester, Hampshire.

Mr M.J.Q. Lewis and Miss A.M. Myles-White and Miss A.M. Myles-white
The engagement is announced
between Matthew, son of Mr and
Mrs B.A. Lewis, of Norwich.
Norfolk, and Antonia. second
daughter of Mr and Mrs
M.J. Myles-White, of Matlock.
Declaration

Mr N.C. Randall and Miss S.A. Moutric and Miss S.A. Moutrie
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Randall, of Worthing, Sussex, and Simone, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Moutrie, of Brookmans Park, Herifordshire.

Mr D.J.C. Simmonds and Miss R.H. Wilson

The engagement is announced between Douglas, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Simmonds, of Cookham Dean, Berkshire, and Rosalind (Rosie), daughter of Mr and Mrs Nevil Wilson, of Micheldever, Hampshire.

Dinners

1912 Club Lord Lamont of Lerwick was the guest of honour at a dinner of the 1912 Club held yesterday at the House of Commons by invitation of Mr David Amess, MP, chairman of the club. Baroness Miller of Hendon, president, also spoke.

Constructors' Company Professor David King, Master of Downing College, Cambridge, was the principal guest and speak-er at the annual dinner of the Constructors' Company held last night at Painters' Hall.

Mr Peter Heath, Master, presided and presented the 1998 David Tong Cup Award to Bhupinder Singh Chawla as best all round achiever from the School of Architectural Engineering at the University of Westminster, and the 1998 Shafting and Shoring Trophy to Warrant Officer N.P Clark, 101

Regiment RE (V). Mr J.M Burrell, Middle Warden, also spoke. The Masters of the Plaisterers'. Paviors', Engineers', Arbitrators', Lightmongers' and Water Conser-vators' Companies and the President of the Chartered Institute of Building were among those present

Mr John Welsby, Chairman of British Railways Board, was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Railway Study Association held last night at the Park Lane Hotel. Mr Alan Wil-liams, president, and Mr Chris Heaps, chairman, also spoke.

The Centre for Jewish-Christian The Centre for Jewish-Christian Relations (CJCR) in Cambridge held a dinner at The Athenaeum, London, yesterday. Mr Clemens Nathan, Chair of the Centre's Board of Trustees, and Mrs Nath-an were the hosts. The occasion

was to welcome the Centre's first

Visiting Fellow, Professor Ham-utal Bar Yosef from Ben Gurion

University in Israel. Among others present were: Mr Edward Kessler (Director, CICR). Mrs Ner Zaward Kenser (Uresur, GCCR). Mrs Deborab Pamerson Jones (CICR). Mrs Katherine Hallgarten, Mr and Mrs Edward Mosanz, the Hon Mr Gerard Noel. Professor Naomi Segal, Mrs Eileen Shaw and Mr George Wilkes (CICR).

Confederation of Passenger Transport UK
Lord Whitty, Minister for Roads
and Road Safety, was the Guest of
Honour at the Annual Dinner of

the Confederation of Passenger Transport UK, held yesterday at Grosvenor House, London. The President of the Confederation, Mr Frank Harris, Chairman of the Harris Group, presided. Service dinner Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785 The Secretary of State for Defence and the First Sea Lord and Chief of the Naval Staff were the principal guests at a dinner of the Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785 beld

yesterday at Trinity House to entertain the Admiralty Board and to mark Founders' Day (February 4, 1765). Vice-Admiral Sir Christopher Morgan presided. Blundell's School

The Hon Francis Maude, MP. Shadow Chancellor, will open the new Library and Resources Centre at Blundell's School on Thursday. March 4.

Colin Beale

s service for the life of Colin Beale, Bursar of Blundell's School 1953-73, (OB 1925-1930) will be held at 11.30am on Saturday, March 13, in Chanel.

Anniversaries ATTHIVETSATTES
BIRTHS: Sir Robert Peel, Prime
Minister 1834-35 and 1841-46, Bury,
Lancashire, 1788; John Boyd Dunlop, pioneer of the pneumatic tyre,
Dreghorn, Strathclyde, 1840;
DEATHS: Thomas Carlyle, writer
and historian, London, 1881; A.B.
(Banjo) Panerson, Australian folk
poet and author of Waltzing Matilda, 1941; Emeric Pressburger, film
producer, Suffolk, 1988.

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BIRTHS BURTON – On February 1st, to Joan (née Peurce) and Paul, a daughter, Emma Louise, a sister for Andrev

CLARKE - On January 22nd 1999, to Jill and Richard, a daughter, Hannah Catherine, a eister for Thomas and Edward.

CORBETT - On February 2nd, at Bieleseid, Cermany, to Lucy inée Osborne) and Jonothan Capt AAC, a son Charles Joseph Cameron. HOUSE - On February 3rd at Bedford Hospital, to Ann (née McNiff) and Sean, a daughter, Eleanor Louise, a sister for Charles.

MORTIMER - On January 29th 1999 to Clare (née Madden) and Greg, a son, William Patrick Fordyce,

PADOVAN - On January 29th, to Arabella (née Gibbs) and Benedict, a daughter, Daisy Amelia sister for Oliver.

SAUL - On February 1st, to Roshi and Tom, a daughter, Miranda, a sister for Edward and Isobel STRINGER - On February 2nd. to Rozanne (née de Pinna) and Jeremy, a son, Samuel (Sam) John, a brother for Molly.

TEESDALE - On Friday January 15th 1999, to Ingrid Curl and Paul Teesdale, a beautiful

DEATHS

AMPENOFF - The Rev Abbea AMPENOFF - The Rev Abbess
Elisabeth Ampenoff died
peacefully in the Convent
of the Annunciation on 3rd
February 1999. The
funeral at the Convent of
the Annunciation, 26
Brondeabury Park,
London NW6 on Saturday
8th February. Liturgy and
Service at Bam followed by
interment at Gumnersbury

Cemetery at 12 noon. CARR - Doreen Catherine, died suddenly but peccefully at home in Finnwell on 1st February. Beloved wife of Robert (Bob), much loved Mother and charlabed Grandma. Funeral enquiries: J Perigoe & Son - (01580) 713636.

DEATHS

XXXX - Matthew Patrick aged 30 years, peacefully at home in Nelson, New Zealand, on 2nd February Zealand, on 2nd February
1999 after courageously
facing Leukaemia. Much
beloved husband of
Caroline and sou of the
late Dr Roger Dixon and
June Miliar, stepson of
Christopher Miliar,
brother of John and Paul,
son-in-law of Bob and
Elit Face. The (uncard will

son-in-law of Bob and Rits Fagg. The funeral will take place in Nelson at 11,00sm on Saturday 6th February. There will be a Service of Celebration of Matthew's life in England in the spring, Details will be announced later.

DURBIN - Elizabeth died in hospital in New York on January 25th aged 62. Cherished wife of Sy, beloved daughter of Marjorle and loving sister of Josy and Gooff - she was also a devoted sunt and step-granny. She will be very much missed by her two families on both sides of the Atlantic and by countless friends and by countless friends and academic colleagues

ELERTON - Evalyn Milicent Marian died peacefully en Pehraary 3rd 1999, aged 79, Much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral rs, much tower means a grandmother. Funeral Service at 12.30pm, at Cramborough Church, on Monday 8th February. No flowers pleases. Donalders if desired, to Friends of Granborough Church, c/o Heritage & Sons - Funeral Directors, 63 High Street, Winslow, Bucks MK18 3DG.

GARDMER - On February
3rd 1999 peacefully at
Knoil Nursing Home,
Yeovil, Someraet, David
aged 77 years, formerly of
Halliar, Yorkabire and
Pomanooth, Cornwall,
Dear father of Jane, John,
Jeremy, Diana and Wendy
and a devoted grandad,
Funeral Service will take
place at Yeovil place at Yeovil Crematorium on Friday 12th February 12.30. Flowers may be sent or donations if preferred for Parkinson's Disease Society c/a Clive Wakely, Wakely Bros., 33 Sparrow Road, Yeovil. Tel: 01935 479913. place at Yeovil

HAI**CI**AY – Pamela Shenton HARMAY - Pamela Shenton unexpectedly but peacefully on 2nd february 1999, widow of the late Dr. John Hannay, beloved mother of Pippa and Richard and a much loved grandmother of Kate and James. Cremation private. Thanksgiving Service to be held at Wimborne Misster on Monday 15th February at 11.30 am. No flowers please but donations in sid of the M.S. Society may be sent c/o Charles Small & Son F/D, 15 West Street, Wimborne, Dorset BHZ1

Wimborne, Dorset BH21 1JR, tel: (01202) 882372. HARSTON - Christopher Glynn aged 68 years, died at Broadlands, Upton on Jamusy 31st. Formerly of Mill House, Drayton, Mill Home, Drayton, Norwich, Brother of the late John Harston (deceased), Funeral Service at St. Faith's Commissions on

Service at the father of temperature of Wednesday February 10th at 11:30 am Demations if desired to St Margaret's Church Drayton of Peter Taylor Funeral Services, 85 Unthank Road, Norwick, Norwick Peter 1 and 1

HEMBURG - On January 30th at her home in Sydling St Nicholas, Margaret Strachan, wife of the late John Henning, and devoted foster mother of Martin, Philip and Diana. Funeral at St Nicholas Church, Sydling St Nicholas on Tuesday February 8th at 4 pm. Nicholas on 1 uestay
Februsry 8th at 4 pm.
Family flowers only
please, donations if wished
for Abbeyfield Society
(Dorchester), c/o Grassby
Funeral Service, 16
Princes Street, Dorchester
Dorset DT1 1TW.

IPVINE - Teddle, (Edwina, Marquette) of Angmering, West Sursex, Diad on 31st January 1999, Wife of Jaci mother of Hil and James, Mana to Harmaby, Roste and Robyn. Funeral has taken piace, tributes to her life and memory please to Camer Research e/o H.D. Tribe Ltd., Broadwater. Worthing, Sussex. Telephone: 01903 234516.

MES - Aifred George JAMES - Aifred George
Anstee, artist, peacefully
after a short illness at
King's College Hospital,
South London, on
February 3rd, Dearly
loved husband of Mary
and father of Ross and
Hilly and grandfather of
Alexander. Private
fungral. Memorial Service
to be arranged.

PERSONAL COLUMN

PEVEREIL - Kathleen
Victoria died suddenly on
22nd January 1999.
Cremation at Putney Vale
Crematorium on Friday
12th February 1999 at
1pm. Flowers to Chelsea
Funeral Directors, 260h
Fulhain Road, London
SW10 9EL or donations to
King George's Fund for
Sailors.

SEB.

NECHOLSON - Thelms, at home in Reisail, Cheshire, on 3rd February 1999, aged 86 years. Widow of Theo, mother of Elizabeth.

David and John, and much loved gramy. No flowers please, but donations to the Camer Research Campeign may be sent 6/0 T.H. Lightfoot & Sons, 111 High Street, Tarporley, Cheshire CW6 DAY, tel: 01829 733808 to whom all enquirles may be directed.

KMG-On February 3rd peacalully, in Harrogate, Eileen, wife of the late Frederic, a dearly loved mother and grandmother. Service at Harrogate Crematorium, Tueeday February 9th at 2.20pm. Donations in memory to 2NLI. RNLI
INDSAY - Martin Ross on
February 2nd 1989
tragically at home in
Ripon. Derling Husband
of Flons, deeply loved
Daddy of Sophie, Lottle,
Flors and Phoebe, also
dear Son of Ism and
Brother of Gavin and
Euan. Funeral at Ripon
Cathedral on Tuesday
February 6th at 11 am

Cathedral on Tuesday February 9th st 11 am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to The Child Bereavement Trust c/o 1 Miliside, Bourne End, Bucks. SL8 5EB.

onquiries may be directed

OATLEY - Christine Mergares
(Kitty). Mother of Clive
Oatley - Peausfully at
Oatley - Peausfully at
Oatley - Peausfully at
Oatley - Oatley - Oatley
Wight, on Tuesday
Wight on Tuesday
will be welcomed at a
Memorial Service at St
Lawrence Parish Church,
Isle of Wight on Sunday
March 7th at 3.00pm. No
flowers or black ties' by
request, any small
donations will be
thankfully received by
The Donkey Sanctuary,
Lower Winston Farm,
Wroszall, Isle of Wight, ref
Vetsyl in Memorian'.

PAGE WOOD - Matthew, died peacefully at home after a long illness on Fehruary 1st. Beloved husband of Betsann and much loved father of Belinda and Miranda, and grandfather of James, Emily and Sophia. Funeral service at St Simon Zelotse Church, Milner Street, London SW3 on Wednesday, February 10th at 12 noon. SW3 on Wednesday, February 10th at 12 noon. followed by private burial. Flowers or domations if desired to Richard Costillo Dey Care Centre c/o Chekses F/D, 260b Feithum Road, London SW10 9EL, tel 0171 352 0008.

Sailors.

REFVES - On January 31st 1999, peacefully in hospital, Benjamin Anthony, aged 36 years, Freeman of the City of London and Skinner, beloved husband of Marjorie, very dear father of Chrissie and much loved grandfather. Cremation private on February 11th. Thankagiving Mese at 12 noon on February 12th at St Teresa's Catholic Church, Cleirmont Road, Lexden, Colchester, Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Cafod c/o W.H. Shephard, 93/94 High Street, Colchester CO1 17TH, tel: (01206) 572305.

SELWYN - On February 2nd

SELWYN - On February 2nd, Percy. Economist and Covernment Advisor, in Mauritius after a long illness, aged 80 years.

illness, aged 80 years.

SHEPHERD - Douglas Alam died suddenly at home Friday 29th January, aged 59 years. Beloved husband of Margaret and much loved son of Crace Shepherd. Funeral Service at 5th Mary Magdalene Church, Taunton on Theaday February 9th at 11.00cm followed by burist at Broomfield Churchyard. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Broomfield Parish Church Restenation and Fabric Fund may be sent c/o E White & Son, 138-8 East Reach, Taunton, TAI 3HN SHEPHERD - Marvaret

SHEPHERD - Margaret
Whitfield died in
Musgrove Park Hospital,
Tsunton on Monday
February 1st after a short
illness aged 59 years.
Beloved wife of Dougias
and much loved sister of
Elisabeth Abrahams.
Funeral arrangements as Puneral arrangements as for Doug Shaphard. STEWART - Poggy, beloved mother of Heather and Anne, loving sister of Edith and adored granny of Gordon, died peacefully on Saturday 30th January on Seturisy 30th January at 10.15em in Greenwich District Hospital. No flowers please, but donations instead to the Macmillan Cancer Reliaf SUMMERS - Dr. George A.C. died pescefully at home in York on February 3rd 1999 aged 83 years. A loving and beloved husband. father, stepfather, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral grandistner and greatgrandistner and greatgrandistner for Minster on
Thursday February 11th at
2.15 pm, followed by
private cremation, Family
flowers only please.
Donations if desired to
The British Music Society
York, Cemer Research
and York Minster c/o J
Rymer Funeral Directors,
15 Penleys Grove Street,
York YO3 TPW.
TURNESUL- Dr Priscilla

15 Panleys Grove Street,
York YOS TPW.
TURNEBUL: Dr Priscilla
Elizabeth. Peacafully on
3rd February 1999 at St.
Columba's Hospice.
Edinburgh. Priscilla
Elizabeth Peacafully on
3rd February 1999 at St.
Columba's Hospice.
Edinburgh. Priscilla,
younger daughter of the
late Margaret Hope Vere
and George Lingard
Turnbell: Sister of Jean
and Scoras. A funeral
service will be held at
Mortonhall Crematorium.
Main Chappel. Edinburgh
on Wednesday 10th
February at 12 noon in
which all friends are
inwited. Family flowers
only please but donations
if so desired may be sent to
St Columba's Hospice.
Challenger Lodge, Roswall
Rosed, Edinburgh. Details
of a Memorial Service will
be autounced later.
WEICH - On February 3rd
Bishop Neville Weich the
late Banty, much lowed
father of Barry, Grant,
Shella and Margaret and
grandfather of Mathew,
Petrick, Danlel. Thomas,
Peter, Edward, Simon and
Timothy and step grandfather of Ben and Daniel.
Funeral Monday 15th
February at 2pm at
Chelmiford Cathedral
followed by private
eremation. Donations to

Chemisterd Cathedral followed by private erunation. Donations to The Mission to Semmen c. Luckin's Funeral Directo 195 New London Road. Chemisterd, Essex CM2 of the Chemisterd, Essex CM2 of the Chemisterd of the Chemister of the Chemi

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE BIRLIOCK - Jack (John). You are always on my mind -you are always on my mind. Love Jenny and Matt.

WANTED CHEAPEST DI LUNDON Phantos Chicago, Salgon, All yop & spor We deliver, 0171 930 8636

WOOD - Christopher Wing Commander RAF, of Aldeburgh, Buffolk. Beloved husband of June, isther of Peter and John, grandiather of James, isck, Tom, Henry and Lucy, Passed away peacefully on holiday in Cape Town on February and 1999. Memorial Service at St. Peter and Se-Service at St Peter and St Paul Church, Aldeburgh, 12 noon, Wednesday 17th February, Donations, if desired, to Royal Airforce MALIMAN - Peter D.O.G. 5.12.45 to 5.2.94. Till we meet again on the other side all our love Pariss and Dodo.

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OBITUARIES

RENFORD BAMBROUGH

Renford Bambrough Cambridge philosopher, died on January 17 aged 72. He was born on April 29, 1926,

FELLOW of St John's College, Cambridge, for nearly 50 years. Renford . Bambrough began as a classicist in ancient philosophy and became a philosopher in the tradition of Russell. Moore and Wittgenstein.

John Renford Bambrough was born into a mining background in Silksworth, County Durham, where his father was an electrician in the local colliery. After grammar school he was conscripted as a Bevin Boy to work at Wearmouth Colliery in 1944. He went from there to St John's as an undergraduate, subsequently succeeding in the fierce postwar competition for places and fellowships to study further study and follow an academic career. He became a college fellow in 1950.

He began with Plato, Aristotle and the pre-Socratics, with a powerful essay on Plato's Repub-lic. Plato's Political Analogies, which was reprinted in Plato, Popper and Politics (1967). But his assiduous attendance at the Cambridge Moral Sciences Club had brought him into contact with Ludwig Wittgenstein and with philosophers from the United States and other parts of the

English-speaking world who were drawn to Wittgenstein. Although Barnbrough was a university lecturer in classics from 1957, his focus of attention had already switched to consideration of philosophical questions, often illustrated by references to Aristotle and more occasionally to Piato, before he became a university lecturer in moral sciences in 1966.

Bambrough came to believe that

Alexander Cooke, physician,

died on January 6 aged 99.

He was born on

October 17, 1899.

ALEC COOKE liked to recall

that as a medical student he

was instructed in the applica-

tion of leeches. Yet he was

sympathetic to modern ideas,

and in his nineties he attended

He came from a long-lived

family. His father could re-

member the funeral of the

Duke of Wellington, and one

of his sisters just beat him by

College. Oxford, he was an

avuncular and clubbable char-

acter. But his modesty dis-

guised a sharp intellect, and

he was influential in instigat-

ing changes in an essentially

conservative profession, notably at the Royal College of

Alexander Macdougall Cooke

was educated at Merchant Taylors' School, Oxford Uni-

versity and St Thomas' Hospi-

Physicians.

iving to be 100. At Merton

lectures on molecular medi-



ALEXANDER COOKE

Oxford, where medical stu-

dents were evacuated from

London to complete their clini-

cal training. As clinical sub-

dean. Cooke set about organis-

ing the teaching with quiet efficiency, and his success encouraged the formation of

an undergraduate clinical

school in Oxford, to be grafted

onto the postgraduate school

In 1942 Cooke was elected to

endowed by Lord Nuffield.

Wittgenstein's later work, for all its dismissal of philosophical theories such as those in his own Tractatus. provided the material for demonstrat-ing that philosophical knowledge was indeed knowledge: capable of reaching truth, with justification and reason. Little published material about the later Wittgenstein existed in the 1950s, but the feeling of a powerful oral tradition was heady matter for those

tal. Before taking up an exhibition at Jesus College

he served in the Royal

Fusiliers and Royal Flying

Corps during the last two

years of the First World

War. In 1920 he secured a

first in animal physiology

and was at once employed

as a demonstrator in the

Department of Physiology.

At St Thomas' he was

awarded the Mead Medal

and the Toller Prize in

clinical medicine and pa-

thology, while at the same

time tutoring in physiology at Jesus. He qualified in

1923 and then held a

succession of appointments at

St Thomas, finally becoming

deputy director of the medical

unit. In 1933 he left London

and was appointed May Read-er in Medicine at Oxford, so

beginning a long association with the Radcliffe Infirmary.

where he became a physician

The onset of the Second

World War placed a great

strain on hospital resources in

who attended Bambrough's lectures and John Wisdom's tea-parties at Causewayside.

Bambrough was an inspirational rationalist. He believed that there was objectivity in philosophy, ethics, aesthetics, and politics, as there was in science and mathematics, and he approvingly quoted Aristotle's view that accuracy was important for the carpenter and the geometrician, but

a fellowship at Merton, an

honour he valued above all

others. The dinner parties

he and his wife Vera gave

in their house on the

Woodstock Road, where

members of the medical

profession met dons,

helped to ease the absorp-

tion of the clinical school

into the life of the universi-

became increasingly in-volved in the affairs of the

Royal College of Physi-

cians. He had been elected

to the fellowship in 1935

and was for many years an

examiner for its membership.

He also gave the Lumleian

and Langdon-Brown lectures.

During his time as censor and

senior censor, in the 1950s, he

brought his considerable influ-

ence to hear in encouraging

the college to move from the

ornate but inappropriate build-

ing in Trafalgar Square to

Denys Lasdun's splendid new

building in Regent's Park.

This move, more than any-

After the war Cooke

was to be construed differently in the two cases.

Bambrough's influential paper Universals and Family Resemblances (1961) developed such notions, beginning from a celebrated passage in Wingenstein's Philosophical Investigations. There followed a series of important articles, including Principia Metaphysica (1964). Unanswer-able Questions (1966; and Aristotle on Justice: A Paradigm of Philosophy (1965), and books, too: Reason, Truth and God (1969). based on his Stanton lectures, and Moral Scepticism and Moral Knowledge (1979). Bambrough's philosophical work was rooted in commonsense and common understanding. That, and his unfailing intellectual rigour. made him a distinguished editor

of Philosophy from 1973 to 1994. A wonderful teacher, he inspired generations of students, many of whom aspired to his calm rationality in worlds remote from professional philosophy His mien was often impassive: his lack of mannerism sometimes seemed itself a mannerism. When he chose to be, he was wickedly witty, the centre of humour and reputedly lucky at poker.

He was an important figure at St John's, as Dean (1964-79) and then President (1979-83). He also served on numerous university bodies and as chairman of the governors of Sedbergh School. But he was, perhaps, too extraordinary and controversial a figure to reach the administrative pinnacles.

His last years were marred by a degenerative neurological condition. Lewy Body disease, which, like Alzheimer's disease, deprived him of thought, reason and speech. His wife and four children, to whom he was devoted, cared for him compassionately, and so, at the end, did his nurses.

thing else, enabled the college

to change from an inward-

looking body to an institution

with a wide-ranging concern

for continuing postgraduate

Perhaps his most important

contribution to education was

the training of a series of

house physicians and regis-

trars who subsequently be-came distinguished in their

own right. His interest in

training was also manifest

during the ten years he served

as Oxford University's repre-

sentative on the General Medi-

Standing at over 6ft, he was

always well-dressed and set

high standards for himself in

personal and professional be-

haviour, which he expected

others to follow. He was well

known in the hospital for

remonstrating with anyone,

be it porter or professor, who

was walking along the corri-

dor whistling or with hands in

Yet he was completely un-

pompous, and his sternness

was relieved by a self-deprecating humour and a refreshing

lack of ambition for personal

He was for 13 years secretary to the editors of the

Quarterly Journal of Medi-

cine and then an editor him-

self for a further 14 years. He

also contributed many papers

to medical journals. In 1966 he

retired from the National Health Service, and in 1972 he

published the third volume of

the History of the Royal

College of Physicians, a metic-

ulous work of scholarship. At

the age of 92 he wrote a

delightful autobiography. The Cooke's Tale. A man of wide

culture, he sang in the Bach Choir, had a great interest in

architecture and was a con-

He married Vera Lea in 1928

and enjoyed a supremely hap-py family life. His wife died in 1984, but being fiercely inde-pendent he insisted on living

alone in his house, continued

to travel widely and remained

a familiar and much loved

figure on high table at Mer-

ton. He was predeceased by

one of his daughters, but is

survived by his son and two

daughters.

noisseur of bookplates.

cal Council.

his pockets.

medical education.

'relatively progressive' character. Unsurprisingly, Casey's name featured prominently among the candidates. The method of Casey's appointment was in many re-spects in tune with the philoso-

within and without the hierarchy who believed that the time had come for bishops who minster. would work in a more consult-During his tenure of the ative and sympathetic man-

Casey was not a specialist theologian but an enthusiastic and accessible figure who had made a name for himself for his unobtrusive work among the poor and in nursing homes and clinics while Provost of Westminster Cathedral Chapter in the previous three years. Wryly remarking that the diocese of Brentwood would never be happy with anything less than a saint, Casey said he would stay for only ten years. Bound to his word, he duly stepped down in December 1979.

The Right Rev Patrick

Casey, Bishop of Brentwood, 1969-79.

died on January 26 aged 85.

He was born on

November 20, 1913.

PATRICK CASEY was one of

the first Roman Catholic bish-

ops in England to be appointed on the recommendation of

his clergy and parishioners. In

the summer of 1969 a survey

was circulated in the Brent-

wood diocese asking priests

and laity who they would like

to see take up the reins on the

departure of Bishop Ward.

While the clergy favoured a figure who would work closely

with them, others in the dio-

case replied that they wanted a

phy of the Second Vatican

Council, four years before. It

satisfied the wishes of those

Patrick Casey was born in North London of Irish stock, and was ordained into the priesthood by Cardinal Hinsley in June 1939, whereupon he became assistant priest at St James's, Spanish Place, for more then 20 years. After two-and-a-half years as parish priest of Hendon, he was appointed Vicar General of the Westminster archdiocese in December 1963. The following year he was made a domestic prelate and a canon of Westminster Cathedral. He was consecrated bishop of a titular see by Cardinal HeeThomas McMahon, In 1980 he once again took up the role of parish priest, this time at the fashionable church of Our Most Holy Redeemer and St Thomas More in Chelsea. He retired to Leigh-on-Sea in September 1989, where he lived next door to his local church, playing an active role in parish life, though in recent years he had been afflicted by psoriasis and arthritis, which made it painful for him to

kneel or genuflect.
As a bishop, Casey was comfortable popular with his clergy and congregations: he would often celebrate Mass in a church where the local priest was ill or absent. Despite his ostensibly liberal stance, he was opposed to any suggestion of women priests. After the Church of England voted to allow the ordination of women in 1992. Casey became a champion of the so-called "Roman Option", intended to bring Anglican clergy into the Catholic priesthood. One of the beneficiaries of the idea was Bishop Graham Leonard. the former Anglican Bishop of London. Asked on his 80th birthday whether women would ever be ordained in the Catholic Church. Casey remarked: "I do not think it will

happen in my lifetime, thank

dren's Bureau in 1955 and

became president of the Associ-

ation of Children's Officers in

1965. In that year she also



nan in 1966 and became one of the auxiliary bishops at West-

THE RIGHT REV

PATRICK CASEY

diocese of Brentwood (which covers the bulk of Essex) Casey ensured an adherence to the spirit of the Second Vatican Council, establishing commissions on liturgy and justice and peace. However, he had first to

deal with the thorny problem of whether or not to enlarge the existing cathedral, the church of St Anthony of Padua, at a cost of £125,000. A minority opposed the idea, pointing out that this sum might be more appropriately spent on overseas aid and charity. Casey insisted, however, maintaining that the old structure was insufficient for its needs, and the extension was eventually built - an extension which has since been augmented by a more

impressive, classical structure. When Cardinal Heenan died in 1975, Casey as Bishop of Brentwood acted as the principal celebrant at the funeral. For many years he was Episcopal Secretary of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

Upon his resignation in 1979, Casey became apostolic administrator, before the eventual appointment of Bishop

JOAN COOPER

Joan Conner, CB, socia work reformer, died on January 15 aged 84. She was born on August 12, 1914.

SINCE the end of the Second World War social work has never been free from controversy. This was Joan Cooper's battlefield. She relished challenge and change. As chief inspector of the children's department at the Home Office in the 1960s, as chairman of Parents for Children in the 1980s and as longtime vice president of the National Children's Bureau, she was at the heart of most major develop-

ments in the field. She was born in the Moravian settlement in Fairfield, Manchester. She took a degree and a teacher's diploma at Manchester University, and began to take an interest in social work in the slums of Ancoats, and by doing parttime probation work.

Finding a job in teaching was not easy. She had to go as far as Bude in Cornwall. But, despite her small stature, she had no difficulty in keeping order.

in 1941, she became an administrative assistant in the Derbyshire Education Department and then an assistant director of education. In these posts she was involved with evacuees (about whom she later advised television's Dads Army), with primary education and in the setting up of child guidance clinics.

After the 1948 Children's Act, which was aimed at dealing with children deprived of a normal home life, children's departments were set up in local authorities, and Joan Cooper was appointed to East Sussex. Together with her colleagues she established a professionally manned children's service. She gained the full support of the elected council, though one member was initially rather in favour of sending the children to learn farming in Australia and New Zealand. Large homes which housed many

children were replaced with smaller ones, and other children lived in foster homes. She was proud that by the time she left a number of "her" children were at university. While in East Sussex she went on an overseas study

tour, played a major role in setting up the National Chil-

became chief inspector of the Home Office's children's department. She worked on the 1909 Children's Act, which was concerned with delinquincy issues, strongly putting the view that labelling a child "delinguent" means predicting a delinquent future. In 1971 she went to the Department of Heath and Social Security as a director of

the new social work service. She retired in 1976, leaving behind a broader vision of personal social services work. On retirement she took a year's course at the National Institute of Social Work. She also wrote three books and many articles in professional journals

She became an honorary research fellow of Sussex University in 1979 and was particularly pleased last October that the university took part in the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Children's Act — an event which she had helped to organise nationally.

She travelled extensively both professionally and privately. She found North America stimulating and was in demand there, as in a number of countries.

She loved opera and art galleries, but her greatest love was walking, particularly on the Sussex downs. She did not

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE PUBLISHED BY THE **SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER** SECTION 7(7) OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT

The Secretary of State hereby gives notice as follows. . He intends to revoke, later in the year, the Class

Licence to run Telecommunications Systems for the Provision of Satellite Telecommunication Services (issued 2 August 1991), the Class Licence for the Running of Telecommunication Systems by Broadcasters to Receive Messages from Earth Orbiting Appararus (issued 15 January 1991), the Class Licence to Run Sound Broadcasting Systems (issued 31 December 1990), the Class Licence to Run Radio Transmission Systems for the Purposes of Controlling and Monitoring Television and Cable Relay Systems (issued 12 December 1991) and the Class Licence to Run Community Television Relay Systems (issued 31 December 1990) which were granted by the Secretary of State under section 7 of the Telecommunications Act and to issue new licences. The licences will be for a period of 25 years subject to earlier revocation in circumstances specified in the licences.

 Various amendments have been made to the licence. to bring the conditions and definitions into line with the uirements of the EC Licensing Directive (97/13EC). and for other reasons. The draft licences have been examined to ensure the conditions are consistent with those set out in the Annex to the EC Licensing Directive and that each condition satisfies the EC Licensing Directive's requirements to be transparent, nondiscriminatory, proportionate and objective. New conditions have been included in the licences on Fair Trading and Access Control services. Various other minor or consequential amendments will be made to the licences to update and standardise the conditions and

3. Representations or objections may be made in respect of the proposed new licences. They should be made in writing by 5 March 1999 and addressed to the undersigned at the Department of Trade and Industry, Communications & Information Industries Directorate, Room 2.79, 151 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 9SS. Copies of the proposed licences can be obtained free of charge by writing to the Department or by calling 0171 215 1746.

5 February 1999

Simon Mossley Department of Trade and Industry

AUSTRALIAN CADETS

The party of Australian cadets who are visiting Europe on an educational tour were received by the Prince of Wales at St James's Palace vesterday afternoon. Headed by their band and colours, they marched to the Palace and formed into three sides of a square in the garden under command of the director of the tour, Mr. J. J. Simons. His Royal Highness walked across from York House, and his appearance in the Palace gardens was greeted by the Royal Salute and the playing of the National Anthem. The Prince remarked that he needed no introduction, because he remembered Mr. Simons quite well. having seen him not only in Australia but some years ago at Buckingham

Mr. Simons informed his Royal Highness that the Duke of Connaught, who had heard that the cadets were going to Nice while on the Continent, had expressed a wish to see them. The Prince replied that he was sure the Duke

ON THIS DAY

February 5, 1925 Despite the somewhat prim tone of the

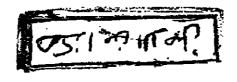
report, the atmosphere was said to be informal at all times. The occasional splitting up of the party was not surprising, for there were 140 cadets.

of Connaught would be as anxious as himself that they should have a happy and instructive time. As the lads marched past him in single file the Prince shook hands cordially with each one, and asked a number of questions. The band brought up the rear, and the Prince had quite a long talk with Geoffrey Bryne, the 12 year old drummajor, who is only 3ft 8in high, and is

the smallest member of the party. The Prince briefly addressed the party, saying: "I sincerely hope that you may have a huppy time here and that you will enjoy your visit to the Old Country as much as I enjoyed my visit to Australia. That is saying a great deal for nothing could have been better."

Earlier in the day a party of the cadets

visited the A.E.C. motor works at Walthamstow, while the remainder went to the Science Museum at South Kensington. After the ceremony at St James's Palace the boys were driven to Lambeth Palace where they received a very hearty welcome from the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Randall Davidson. The Archbishop told the cadets that his Palace was one of the very few really old houses left in London. He trusted that they would return home believing that the people of this country had great faith in the future of Australia. The visitors were entertained to tea at the Royal Colonial Institute by Lord Burnham. In the evening half the cadets visited the Savoy Theatre and witnessed a performance of The Sport of Kings: the remainder were the guests of the Overseas League . . .



NEWS

Ailing Hussein flies home

A critically ill King Hussein was last night flying back to his vulnerable desert kingdom in an apparent bid to die on home soil after the drastic failure of a second bone marrow transplant to secure remission in his lethal lymphatic cancer.

"The great fear of everyone here is that the King is rushing home to die among his people and not on foreign turf," a former Jordanian diplomat said... ..Pages 1, 15

Base rate cut deals blow to savers

■ Savers were dealt a blow yesterday by the fifth successive monthly cut in the Bank of England base rate from 6.0 per cent to 5.5 per cent. The Bank's unexpected decision to trim base rates was greeted with widespread acclaim by business and union leaders. Mortgage lending rates were cut to their lowest levels for 30 years...

Diana patent bid fails

An attempt by the family and memorial fund of Diana. Princess of Wales, to turn her face into a trademark, has been rejected by the Patent Office...

RAC deal called off

Some 12,000 members of the Royal Automobile Club who had been banking on a £34,000 windfall from selling RAC Motoring Services to Cedant had their payouts cancelled when the deal was

Lords, 75, face axe

Life peers over 75, such as Baroness Thatcher and Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, face expulsion from a reformed House of Lords under plans for a mandatory retirement

Island wives wanted

Remote Hebridean island com-

munities, known locally as bachelor country, are to receive Euro-

pean funding to attract potential wives to the area Dilemma for rider

A talented disabled rider is consid-

ering having her arm amputated to comply with a rule change banning her from top-level dressage competitions

Channel 4 faces fine Channel 4 is facing a substantial

fine after admitting that a documentary about young male prostitutes contained scenes that were

Percy's garden plan

The Duchess of Northumberland is seeking £15 million in sponsorship to help create one of the most spectacular gardens on the planet at Alnwick Castle..... Page 11

Tories' marriage vow William Hague has promised to

use the tax and benefit system to support the institution of mar-...Page 12

Fresh IOC scandal

Kim Un Yong, the Korean Olympic official tipped as the next president of the IOC, came under fresh pressure to step down when it was revealed that Salt Lake City had got his son a job Page 14

Nato prepares forces Nato is planning to send five brigades into Kosovo, with a

5.000-man strategic reserve force in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, if a peace deal is signed in Rambouillet..... Page 17

Mercenaries revolt

French mercenaries are in revolt over their lack of work and what they say is the failure of their leaders to pay them for the few missions that have come their way in recent yearsPage 18

Bank in Nazi scandal

Deutsche Bank, Germany's largest commercial bank, was thrust into the midst of a new Nazi era. scandal, casting a shadow over its planned \$10-billion takeover of Bankers Trust....

Home boasts durable foundations

The buyer of 29 Bailgate in Lincoln will get a slice of Roman history as well as a three-storey family home. The house boasts four giant pillars, part of the remains of a first-century Roman civic centre, as well as a section of road believed to have been built between York and London by the Romans after they arrived in the area about 42BC



Bill and Hillary Clinton, pictured at a prayer breakfast in Washington, have attacked a People cover story about their daughter. Chelsea. Page 16

SUMBOL OF HOPE FOR YOUNG GIRLS EVERYWHERE WHO DREAM OF SOMEDAY MEETING THEIR PRINCE. TO

BUSINESS ...

Rover sham: Longbridge, Rover's car plant, has already been abandoned by its parent BMW, according to senior Rover insiders who have branded the high-profile £2 billion package a sham..... Page 27 Stakis talks: Ladbroke, the hotel and gaming group, is in talks to acquire Stakis, its Glasgow-based rival, in a £1.5 billion deal....Page 27 Goldman payout: The partners of Goldman Sachs may exclude most employees from a share windfall when it again attempts to float on the US stock market Page 27 Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell 0.40 points to 5939.9. The pound fell 0.02 cents to \$1.6380 but rose 0.33p against the euro to 68.93p. The sterling index rose to 100.6Page 30

Football: A sub-committee will be formed next week to discuss the contenders for the job of England manager, and David Davies, the acting chief executive, will have a large say in the appointment......Page 52 Boxing: Howard Clarke, a journeyman boxer from the West Midlands, aims for a world title at Madison Square Garden in New York on the same bill as Lennox Lewis

SPORT

and Evander Holyfield Page 52 Rugby union: Scotland have made six changes to the team that lost to South Africa for their opening Five Nations Championship match against Wales.... ..Page 49 Cricket: India scored 247 for eight in a hostile atmosphere on the first day of the second Test against Paki-.....Page 45 stan in Madras.....

C General: colder. Scotland will be bitterly cold with showers and a strong wind leading to bizzards in highlands and some sleet.

London, SE & Central S England, E Midlands, Channel Islands: manty dry and bright. Small risk of a shower Wind fresh, NW. Max 9C (46F)

☐ E Anglia, Central N, E & NE England: surry spells with one or two showers Wind NW, strong Max 7C (45F) ☐ W Midlands, S Wales, SW & NW Eng-

TW Midlands, S Wales, SW & NW England, Isle of Man: heavy showers, sunny spels Wind strong, NW Max 8C (46F).

☐ N Wales, Lake District heavy showers few sunny spells Wind strong, NW. Max 8C (46F)

Rare Bard: A London theatre is staging a little-read Shakespeare poem in an unfamiliar verse form - and the result is 80 minutes of thrilling drama.. .. Page 34 Richard Morrison; "This time the

curse of the lottery has blighted not some over-ambitious theatre, but the humblest and oldest servants of British mass culture"...... Page 35 Pop 1: "John Lennon is cool because he was exactly the kind of person who would have foathed Chris Evans" - Caitlin Moran on a television commercial too ghastly to watch...Page 36

Pop 2: How three teenage sisters from Manchester adopted the name Cleopatra and set about ruiing the world. Plus the week's new pop albums reviewed.......Page 37

C Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee: surry spells. showers on hills Wind strong to gale, NW. Max 6C (43F).

Galler, NW. Mass Go. (1907).

☐ Aberdeen, Central Hightends, Moray
Firth, NE & NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shedland: showers, blzzards on hills
Wind strong to gale, NW Mas SC (43F).

☐ SW Scotland, Glasgow: sharp showers burning writy. Wind strong to gale, NW.
Mass GC (43F).

□ N fretand: heavy showers, few sunny spells Wind strong, NW. Max 7C (45F).

☐ Republic of Ireland: sunny spells and scattered showers. Wind Iresh or strong, NW. Max 10C (SOF).
☐ Outlook for weekend: becoming even colder, with showers and sunny spells.

001 0.08 0.01 0.09 0.09

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

Jane Shilling: "Pregnancy is a thrilling experience, during which you have a fair chance of looking as sexy as you ever have"..... Page 20

Grace Bradberry: "Far from provid-

ing escapism, Shakespeare in Love

is thrusting a rapier into settled re-

lationships".

Breakthrough: Jeff Randall, the editor of Sunday Business, is relishing his paper's breaking the 60,000

sales barrier Page 38 Trashed: Peter Stuart, TV's original king of trash who is about to launch another risqué Channel 4 series, believes that Channel 5's output is going too far Page 41

Help: Guidelines are needed to ensure that school governors understand their position..........Page 43

The shameful evidence of corruption by IOC members, the inability of the IOC to agree to an anti-drugs regime that will be effective, and the failure to reform the bid process, confirm that the IOC has lost its effectiveness. Members talk rotten apples". But the rot is systematic. As the IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch must carry the ultimate responsibility for the crisis. He is not an answer to the problem.

He represents the problem. The Sydney Morning Herald

ADDITION OF THE PROPERTY OF TH

Changes to the chart below from noon: High M moves slow and declines slightly, Low K

DADIO & TV

Preview: Home improvement buffs parade their cock-ups. Britain's Worst DIYers (ITV, 9pm) Review: Paul Hoggart on a flu virus that could return.....Pages 50, 51

The blame game

Ministers in Northern Ireland cannot wait upon events. The Government should emphasise that the only real obstacle to progress is paramilitary obduracy. A moratorium on prisoner releases would be a suitable sign of ministerial resolution. No executive can be called until decomissioning begins Page 23

Conviction politics

It may be, should be, upsetting for Republicans to see the words of George Washington upstaged by the opinion polls of George Gallup. They must nonetheless prepare an exit strategy....

Women's rock

If an EU grant can encourage not only women but whole families to the underpopulated Outer Hebrides, it will fulfill its most valuable purpose, a diverse economy where a community now dies Page 23

SIMON JENKINS

Barely a week goes by without these ritual slayings. Harriet Harman, Ron Davies, Derek Draper, Peter Mandelson, Glenn Hoddle . . . anyone will do......Page 22

MARY ANN SIEGHART Eating a T-bone steak is a voluntary pursuit. As long as shops attach a label informing that there is a miniscule risk of infection, that should be the limit of government intervention Page 22

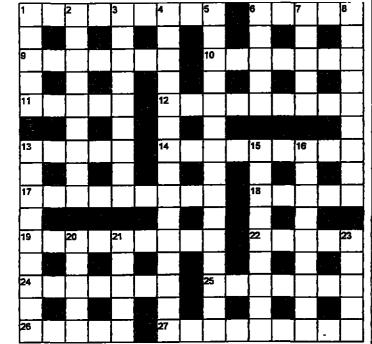
PHILIP HOWARD

Ever vaster daily avalanches of paper bury us at home. I do not want the Royal Bank of Scotland to invent new accounts that will win me discounts in restaurants and for accident insurance.....

Renford Bambrough, Cambridge philosopher; Alexander Cooke, physician; The Right Rev Patrick Casey, Bishop of Brentwood; Joan Cooper, social reformer Page 25

Police no-go areas in Northern Ireland; God's judgment; minimum wage; Stirling Moss on elderly drivers: institutional racism: Alfred Brendel defends Goethe Page 23

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,019



ACROSS

- I Even though rejected with reprimand, unlikely to flare up (9).
- 6 Allow out of bed to relax (3,2). 9 Brave young lady left a testament
- 10 Rows for sport (7). 11 Your old baffling disease is simple (5).

ric pattern (5).

- 12 Erect pine crashes where disaster's most severe (9). 13 Sacred text worked into tiny fab-
- 14 Takes back fruit, first of several goods to be moved out (9). 17 Cane, say, for bribe (9).
- 18 Permitted to speak in normal voice (5).
- 19 Old writer that's made a knight never mixes with cast (9). 22 Soldier wearing protective gear

Solution to Puzzle No 20.018



- for possibly dangerous spells (5). 24 State employing veto, inter alia 25 European project has recent rival
- 26 Pet fed with chips? (5).
- 27 Old soldier given encouragement to include name on equipment (9).
- money (5). 2 Athletic event broadcast to people

I Scrap plane journey, having no

3 Cutting entertainment short, firmly fix seating order (9). 4 Points out cause of one's being misled like this? (2.3.5,5).

5 Full of ideas over residential de-

- velopment in cradie of civilisation 6 Philosopher making secure point
- 7 Time needed to overcome breach in church council here (5). 8 Law groups made haste without pressure, and missed only one
- point of law? (9). Knowing excellent joke (9). 15 One needs energy to maul furiously hard in crucial area of field (9).
- 16 Material son's written in drink leading to downfall (9). 20 Check root that's come up (5). 21 Anger with relusal, in any case
- 23 Set free. but bound over? (5).
- Times Two Crossword, page 52

NEWSPAPERS

Tomorrow In

THE SATURDAY

IMES

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Yesterday's hottest: Hawarden, Flintshire 15C (59F); Lowest day max Lerwick 04C (39F); Wettest Almaharra and Loch Glascamoch, Highland 0.65th, Summiest Newcastle 6 7hrs

HT PM 89 14:10 7.1 17:04 26 12:48 4.7 15:12 5.6 20:21 3.7 20:47 5.3 19:47 5.3 19:47 1.9 22:08 4.5 16:12 6.1 12:29 4.4 13:51 1.7 22:27 9.6 18:50 4.1 14:48 HT 4.1 12.2 3.5 4.9 6.2 4.7 3.7 5.4 6.4 6.4 5.2 AM 1.55 4:40 0:00 2:44 9:07 8:01 8:18 7:28 9:46 2:04 1:58 1:42 8:41 2:24 16:23 27:24 14:07 22:10 20:46 13:59 14:37 20:17 15:24 14:52 12:18 21:21 21:09 21:18 17:54

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Books for Schools

token inside

Media, Page 39

world

Insiders claim that Longbridge plant has already been abandoned by BMW

Rover rescue branded a sham

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, SIGRID AUFTERBECK AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

LONGBRIDGE, the huge Rover car plant in Birming-ham with 14,000 employees, has already been abandoned by its parent, BMW, according to senior Rover insiders who have branded the £2 bil-

lion rescue package a sham. An announcement about the end of the Rover series and the closure of Longbridge had been tipped for the Geneva Motor show next month, but BMW chiefs have brought the

issue to a head early with today's meeting of the company's supervisory board. The meet-ing could sack Bernd Pischetsrieder, BMW's chief executive and the only supporter of keeping the Rover operation intact.

Despite the deal to save Longbridge, struck in December, Rover has not started building the production line for the new Mini, nor has it placed orders with suppliers for the car, which is due to be produced by next year. Nei-ther has Rover put in a formal request to the Department of Trade and Industry for state

despite having indicated it needed such aid to bolster its rescue package. The salvation for Longbridge was struck after unions agreed to flexible working practices. They are now dismayed at the prospect of Longbridge collapsing.

The rescue package was agreed to increase the plant's productivity, which lags be-hind that of its European competitors. The problems facing Rover, which industry experts say produces cars that people do not want to buy, were underlined vesterday when figthe British car market plummeted last month.

The troubled group saw new registrations crash 45 per cent from 20,588 to 11,218, reducing its share of the overall market to less than one in 20 sales. Rover is usually the third-biggest seller in the UK behind Ford and Vauxhall, but it finished behind Peugeot, Renault and Volkswagen.

If Herr Pischetsrieder is sacked today, he is likely to be replaced by Wolfgang Reitzle. who is against preserving the full range of Rover production

only the Mini. MG and Land Rover ranges and isolating production to Rover's plants at Oxford and Solihull.

Rover insiders, who have been briefed at top-level meetings at BMW's Munich headquarters, say that Herr Pischerscrieder is alone in battling for Longbridge and the full Rover range. It he is made to carry the can for poor production and sales, then support for Longbridge will vanish even if another successor is chosen.

Ken Jackson. General Secretary of the AEEU, said: "Long-

Midlands economy. Its closure would be the biggest blow the area has suffered in years." But he said he had had no indication from the compa-

ny that this would be the case. Tony Woodley, chief negotiator at the T&G, said the unions would press Rover to abide by the Longbridge rescue package. He said: "The deal was ratified by the entire board; that includes Herr Reitzle." However, the deal is not

thought to be legally binding. Mr Woodley, who is also chairman of the Rover trade

THE stock market yesterday

endured a rollercoaster day

with even the Bank of Eng-

land's unexpected move to reduce base rates to their lowest

level in more than four years

failing to curb the jitters of

While the Bank's decision to

reduce rates from 6 per cent to

5.5 per cent was greeted with

glee by business and the un-ions, the market turned lower

on fears that the Federal Re-

serve might consider raising

The anticipated reluctance

of the European Central Bank

to kick-start the European

economy with its own rate cut

also took a toll of the market.

trimmed rates because "pros-

pects for international activity

nd prices, domestic costs an

consumer demand" implied

that a further reduction was

necessary to keep inflation on

target. It was the fifth consecu-

tive month in which the MPC

has cut rates, reducing them

from a peak last summer of 7.5

The stock market jumped

immediately after the decision

was announced to hit a peak

per cent.

The Bank said it had

rates in the US.

Rate cut fails to

curb jitters in

rollercoaster

ride for market

the possible departure of Herr Pischetsrieder, "He was seriously committed to us over here. We were 100 ner cent committed to Herr Pischetsrieder and we are very sad

time to ride the Rover project to a successful final end." Rover confirmed that it had not started building the key production line at Longbridge. had not contacted suppliers nor had officially applied to the DTI for aid.

for the day some 101 points

higher. However, the market

failed to maintain its gains as Wall Street opened lower on

US interest rate fears and the

FTSE 100 eventually closed up

early losses to close virtually unchanged against the dollar

at \$1.6380 and marginally

higher against the euro at

The euro continued to be

weighed down by the poor eco-

nomic outlook in Europe de-

spite the ECB's decision late in

the day not to alter its key rate

had no intention of interven-

ing in the foreign exchange

The pound rebounded from

just 0.4 points at 5,939.9.

Commentary, page 29

Business Today

Bid ahead for FKi? Equity prices



Family

Brother and sister with the future of BMW in their hands

STOCK MARKET

US RATE

LONDON MORES

Wirn Duisenberg, President of the European Central Bank. said there was still no indication of "significant upward or downward pressures on prices". He added that the ECB

Tokyo cłose Yen 113.80

markets despite the recent decline in the value of the euro. Rate cut, page Commentary, page 29

LINKS WEBSITE: (Bank of England)

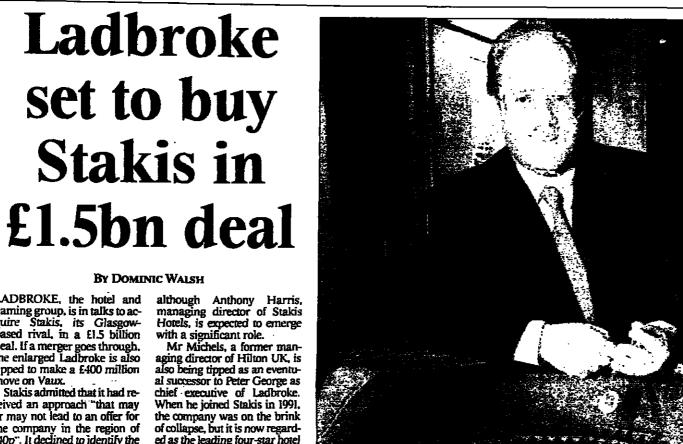
from 3 per cent.

fortunes

entary 29, Feature 31

NORTH SEA OIL

\$288.75 (\$267.05) denotes midday trading prices



gaming group, is in talks to acquire Stakis, its Glasgowbased rival, in a £1.5 billion deal. If a merger goes through, the enlarged Ladbroke is also tipped to make a £400 million move on Vaux.

Stakis admitted that it had received an approach "that may or may not lead to an offer for the company in the region of 140p". It declined to identify the suitor but industry sources confirmed that a recommended offer from Ladbroke of at least 150p could be announced as

It is understood that both sides are keen to do a deal, although observers believe the statement could spark a bidding war involving the likes of Whitbread and possibly Accor of France. One said: "Whitbread are unlikely to sit back and let Ladbroke have things

all their own way." News of the deal comes amid mounting City pressure for con-solidation in the sector. Vaux, which owns Swallow Hotels, is known to have received approaches from Stakis and Whitbread last year, and both also looked at Thistle Hotels. If Stakis walks away from a Ladbroke deal, it could renew its

own takeover ambitions. Stakis was forced by the Takeover Panel to issue a statement after a sharp rise in its share price since The Times revealed two weeks ago that Ladbroke and Stakis had held exploratory talks. Its shares, languishing at 100p before the report, rose a further 26p yesterday to 137p. Ladbroke shares

shed 4/4p to 238/4p. One of the main issues under discussion is likely to be the role of David Michels, the Stakis chief executive and regarded as one of the best managers in the hotel business. If a deal is agreed, it is inconceivable that Mr Michels would not take over from David Jarvis as head of Hilton International, putting a question mark over

Mr Jarvis's future. The recent appointment of Mike Smith, head of Ladbroke's betting and gaming division, to run Rank Group leaves a gap for ian Payne, managing director of Stakis Casinos. Neil Chisman of Stakis is thought likely to lose out to the highly regarded Bri-an Wallace as finance director. which it bought last year.

FROM OLIVER AUGUST

IN NEW YORK

THE partners of Goldman Sachs may

ployees from a share windfall bonanza

According to the latest plans circulat-

ing at the Wall Street bank only part-

ners and managing directors will

share in a floration payout of about

Under the blueprint for the original

exclude the vast majority of their em-

when the US investment bank at-tempts once more to float on the US

stock market later this year.

\$20 billion (£12 billion).

LADBROKE, the hotel and although Anthony Harris, managing director of Stakis Hotels, is expected to emerge with a significant role. Mr Michels, a former man-

aging director of Hilton UK, is also being tipped as an eventual successor to Peter George as chief executive of Ladbroke. When he joined Stakis in 1991. the company was on the brink of collapse, but it is now regarded as the leading four-star hotel chain in Britain with 54 hotels. as well as 22 casinos and 69 LivineWell health clubs. Some 38 of Ladbroke's 170 Hilton hotels are in the UK, most of which have LivingWell clubs.

At 150p a share Stakis's market value including debt would stand at £1.5 billion. Mr Michels has shares and options worth almost £3 million, while Sir Reo Stakis, the group's founder and presi-

dent, has £15 million worth. David Michels, who is regarded as one of the best managers in the British hotel business Deutsche's

THE Royal Automobile Club is preparing for a stock market flotation after its £450 million sale to Cendant yesterday fell foul of the Department of Trade and Industry.

In a move designed to deliver the promise of share windfalls to its 12,000 members - worth around £33,000 under the aborted Cendant deal - the RAC will now either go public or find another buyer willing to table a "knock-out offer".

It is widely expected that Britain's second largest roadside breakdown service will receive approaches from venture capital buyers. It is understood that Cinven, which vied with Cendant in last summer's takeover talks, is seeking iminediate negotiations.

Kim Howells, Competition Minister, ruled that Cendant would have too much control over the breakdown market if it merged the RAC with its

tice last year, all 11,000 employees

After the collapse of the plan, Jon

Corzine, the co-executive chairman

and the strongest advocate of a flota-

The flotation is now being managed

by Hank Paulson, who succeeded Mr Corzine as chief executive, with the

help of John Thornton, who is a top

partner based in London as well as

chairman of Laura Ashley, the trou-

Some Goldman Sachs insiders are

were to have received shares.

tion, lost his job.

has 48 per cent of the breakdown market, the RAC 29 per cent and Green Flag 12 per cent. Ms Howell said: "No other supplier has more than 3.5 per cent. The market is highly concentrated, and the merger



The Times tomorrow

SHARES in Bankers Trust which has also been dogged by allegations of fraud in the US. slipped further in Wall Street tradine last night as speculation mounted that its takeover by Deutsche Bank is running into trouble after the German The RAC had been preparbank disclosed that it helped to finance construction of the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz.

The World Jewish Congress is seeking meetings with Rolf Breuer. Deutsche Bank's chairman. to force the bank to settle Holocaust claims. Yesterday Deutsche Bank historians said that newly uncovered documents showed it had played a part in financing the construction of the

Nazi camp in southern Poland. In New York, Bankers Trust shares eased 88 cents a share to \$85 (£52) against a year high of \$136.05, as investors took an opinion on the \$10.1 billion deal with Deutsche Bank unravelling. Deutsche's stock firmed €0.35 to €48.30 (£32).

over the most secretive of Wall Street

Loan link, page 19

GOOD BUY PEPS

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		TO C e

RAC poised for float **Auschwitz** as DTI blocks US sale past hits **Bankers** By Fraser Nelson

On DTI calculations, the AA

would make it more so." Stephen P. Holmes, vicechairman of Cendant, an American corporation that owns Brit-



How to make the family budget go Special guide with ain's NCP car parks group but

said: "We are very disappointed. The British motorist has lost out here - the deal would have been far better for them." ing for the deal to be blocked

and yesterday unveiled a new City-friendly board, chaired by Sir Michael Angus, chairman of Whitbread, to ready it for flotation.

The RAC Club in Pall Mall. London, with its golf course in Epsom, Surrey, still owned by

the members, has now been separated from breakdown business. Neil Johnson, RAC chief executive, said that members who were looking forward to windfalls will not be disappointed: "I don't think we'll have to look actively for buyers - they will come to us. I know there is a lot of interest out there, but they

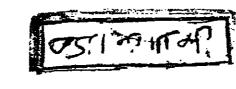
will have to join the queue."

Commentary, page 29

Goldman Sachs to block staff windfall

flotation that was pulled at short no- insisting that all employees should receive stock, although that amount is banks will be exerted firmly from the likely to be smaller than the previously top. One of the objections to the flotation by Mr Thornton and other ton suggested figure of shares equivalent partners had been that it could underto between 50 per cent and 100 per cent mine Goldman's hands-on manageof each employee's salary. It is underment style. stood that employees are being prepared for their exclusion from the flota-Foreshadowing changes to come.

tion windfalls. Goldman last month disbanded its Mr Paulson and Mr Thornton, who six-member executive committee that initially opposed the flotation, have made all big decisions. In its place, a agreed that the deal will be revived this bigger committee of all department heads will advise the top trio, made up year but they are said to be changing the structure devised by Mr Corzine. of Mr Paulson, Mr Thornton and Under the new blueprints, control John Thain, the finance director.



Tyneside buyout bid rejected by Siemens

By Paul Armstrong

SIEMENS. the electronics company, has rejected a management buyout proposal for its crippled microchip plant on Tyneside.

The collapse in negotiations ends the 250 employees' best hopes of keeping the doors open beyond the June closing date set by Siemens.

It is understood that Siemens refused to accept the proposal from two of the plant's senior executives, who were believed to be offering about 1400 million, despite having no better deal on the table.

A company spokesman refused to reveal why Siemens had rejected the proposal. Analysts, however, are speculating that Siemens is holding out for a higher price. Jim Wood-Smith, an analyst with Greig Middleton, said the price of chips, such as those produced at the Siemens plant, had risen sharply in the past fortnight.

Siemens spent £650 million on the Newcastle project, which employed 1.100 people when its closure was announced last July.

ICI has a mountain to climb as profits slump

By CHRISTINE BUCKLE INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

IC1, the former industrial bellwether and biggest company in the UK, yesterday offered no way out of its gloomy trading prospects and massive debt mountain. Sir Ronald Hampel, chairman, said this year would bring "continuing uncertainty and lower growth in many parts of the world, which will further impact our bulk chemicals businesses".

While the company, which is transforming itself from a commodity chemicals business to a speciality consumer group, said that its priority was to cut down its £4.2 billion debt. it would not say how. Analysis fear that its chances of selling businesses now are poor because the commodity chemicals market is in the doldrums. The company has hit two blocks in recent months over its disposal programme, when the Federal Trade Commission in the US halted the £1 billion sale of its tioxide operation and the £285 million sale of its Crosfield business.

Brendan O'Neill. who will



ICI's Brendan O'Neill. left, and Alan Spall aim to reduce debt

become chief executive in the spring, said the change to new ICI was on course. He said: "We suffered a setback last year, but that does not mean the transformation is in crisis." ICI saw pre-tax profits for the year to December 31 slump 17 per cent to £321 million as industrial chemicals reported a 14 per cent fall in volume along with declines of 3 per cent in coatings, materials and overall group volume. Industrial chemicals produced a £31 million loss in the last quarter, while petrochemicals suffered a 26 per cent collapse in sales

over the whole year.

The total dividend is maintained at 32p a share, with a second interim payment of 19.5p due April 19. The company said it would review the next dividend on the basis of the performance of the core business, the disposal programme and the economic outlook. Earnings per share, after goodwill and exceptionals, fell to 26.7n (35.7n)

to 26.7p (35.7p).

ICI is to shake up its bonus scheme for executives so that it is linked to cash generation and only rewards "hardedged" achievements. It is also poised to reduce its headquaters operation, heightening speculation that it could move from Westminster.

Mr O'Neill insisted that the company was not vulnerable to a takeover and that it already had one of the biggest portfolios of specialty chemicals. The shares climbed ⁹p to 527p.

Tempus nage 3

Cammell Laird sees its boat come in

BY ROBERT LEA

CAMMELL LAIRD, the ship repairer, prompted memories of the glory days of the Merseyside shipyards yesterday when it reported a near quadrupling in interim profits.

The company, famous earlier this century for building the Mauretania and the Ark Royal. reported pre-tax profits in its half year to October 31 of £4.7 million. Activities now include repairing Irish Sea ferries and converting vessels for North Sea oil fields.

The Cammell Laird name was resurrected four years ago when Coastline Industries bought the name and the dry docks that it leased in Birkenhead from VSEL.

Birkenhead from VSEL.

Current growth, the company says, comes from increased dry dock capacity and the acquisition last year of operations on the Tyne and the Wear. Analysts expect full-year pre-tax profits of £9.7 million. rising to £15.4 million in 2000.

The dividend is 2p, up from 1.4p. The shares, floated 18 months ago at 100p, yesterday slipped 10p to 700p.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Telewest sets time for digital launch

TELEWEST, one of the big three cable companies, yesterday said that it will launch digital services in the fourth quarter of this year and confirmed the placing of an initial order of 100,000 digital set-top boxes with Pace Micro Technology. The announcement means that all three large cable companies — Telewest, NTL and Cable & Wireless — plan to launch their main digital services at about the same time and all

three have placed set-top box orders with Pace.

Telewest yesterday unveiled strong fourth-quarter operating figures boosted by its Millennium package of a telephone line and 14 cable channels for El2-99 a month. The Millennium package and good results from Front Row, the cable industry's pay-per-view film service, boosted cable television figures before the merger with General Cable. The number of cable television customers rose by 19.5 per cent to 724,287.

Trafficmaster deal

SHARES in Trafficmaster, the traffic information network, yesterday rose by more than 16 per cent after announcing a five-year contract to supply the AA with information. Trafficmaster will receive a "substantial" annual fee and a share of revenues. The AA will start using the information in the first half of this year, but it is as yet unclear how it will be deployed. Probable options are a website and a mobile phone service. The shares rose 89p to 6414p, near their 652p high.

Durlacher increase

DURLACHER, the AIM-listed technology investment group whose shares have risen 250 per cent since November, has reported pre-tax profits of £531,000 for its half year to December 31, up from £150,000. Earnings per share were 11.589 (3.51p). There is again no interim dividend. Geoffrey Chamberlain, chairman and chief executive, said: "It is our intention to expand each of our key functions at a pace sufficient to maximise the symbiotic relationship which exists between them."

Coats Viyella jobs go

COATS VIYELLA, the textiles company, is to close a knitwear factory that makes clothing for Marks & Spencer. It will make 287 staff redundant. The plant at Loughborough, Leicestershire, employs 430 people, but 143 jobs are to be switched to a plant at nearby Shepshed. The company, which said that the closure was part of a planned restructuring, is the latest in a long line of Marks & Spencer clothing suppliers to shed staff. Coats Viyella employs 9.500 textile workers in the UK.

Nightfreight ahead

NIGHTFREIGHT, the parcel delivery company, attributed its increase in profits in a deteriorating market to improved margins. Pre-tax profit for the year to November 30 was £3.5 million, up from £3 million last year, on a turnover of £87.3 million (£88.2 million). Earnings per share were 4.71p (4.15p) and the final dividend of 1.5p (1.3p) brings the total to 2.1p per share (1.8p). David Cobb, chairman, said: "Consolidation is inevitable and we expect to play a part in that process."

Swan Hill shares leap

SWAN HILL GROUP, a construction company, yesterday saw its shares leap 23p to 68½p after it said that it had received unsolicited approaches that may lead to an offer being made for it. In March last year, Swan Hill reported its first annual profit since 1994 after emerging from a long restructuring. The company, formerly known as Higgs & Hill, made pre-tax profits of £8.79 million for the year to December 31, 1997, against losses of £3.87 million in 1996.

Bass buys in Germany

BASS, the brewing and leisure group, has made its first barrestaurant investment outside Britain with the acquisition of a 19-strong chain in Germany. The Alex Group bars, similar to Bass's All Bar One and Edward's chains in Britain, are said by the company to be "a toe in the water" in the continental market. The news came as the group reported a 2.2 per cent decline in beer volumes in pubs and bars and a 13.2 per cent decline in off-trade in the first quarter.

Cadbury's Dutch sale

CADBURY SCHWEPPES is pulling out of confectionary production in The Netherlands after a decision to sell its Dutch factories. Cadbury Faam is selling its production facilities, which have a net book value of £8.7 million to Astra Sweets, the Dutch company. Cadbury will concentrate instead on building up its brands in The Netherlands and Scandinavia and will source its products from other manufacturers.

AirTouch advances

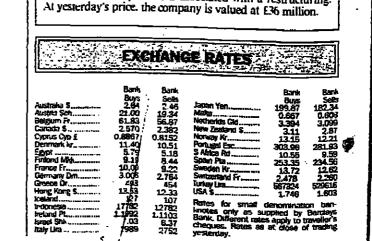
AIRTOUCH, the American telecommunications group that is being acquired by Vodafone, the British mobile phones group, for \$66.5 billion (£40 billion), yesterday reported a 54 per cent leap in earnings in 1998 to \$608 million. The company, which is based in San Francisco, said that it added 4.3 million customers during the year, with well over half coming from outside of the US, taking its total customer base to 17.6 million.

CCB expanding

COCA-COLA BEVERAGES (CCB), one of Coca-Cola's main bottlers and whose shares are listed in London, is expanding its presence in Romania by buying two bottling plants. CCB will pay £15 million for the territory owned by Ozgorkey Coca-Cola, which accounts for about 12 per cent of Coca-Cola's volume in Romania. The acquisition, taking CCB's share of Coca-Cola sales in Romania to 64 per cent, is its first since flotation last year. CCB shares fell up to 107p yesterday.

Chemring approached

SHARES of Chemring jumped 45p to 151p yesterday after the defence and engineering group said it was considering an approach that could lead to an agreed offer. Earlier this week, the company reported pre-tax profits of £1.25 million for the 13 months to October 31 on turnover of almost £75 million. In the previous year to September 30, the company incurred a £24 million loss after provisions associated with a restructuring.



As you'd expect, Scotland is at the top of Great Britain.

	IE VERDI	CIS		
COMPANY.	SCORE		DATE	-
Scottish Power	81.5	Feb	09	1998
Shelf . British Land	7 9 79	Øct Dec	27 07	1 <i>9</i> 97 1998
BAA	78	Dec	22	1997
BP	78	June	29	1998
Legal & General	78	June	22 02	1998
Granada Cadbury Schweppes	78 <i>7</i> 7	Feb <i>Apr</i>	14	1998 1998
PowerGen	76	July	06	1998
Boots	76	Apr	27	1998
Lloyds TSB	75	Nov	10	1997
British Aerospace	75 74	Juna	15 1	1998 1998
Stagecoach Schroders	74 74	Sept	01	1998
BG	74	Nov	03	1997
Asda	74	Oct	13	1997
Reuters	73	Dec	14	1998
Tesco Redritt & Colmon	73 73	June May	08 18	1998 1998
British Energy	73	Apr	20	1998
Smiths Industries	73	No	24	1997
Halifex	73	Jan	05	1998
COLT Telecom Nycomed Amersham	72 72	Jan Nev	18 09	1999
United News & Media	7)	May	11	1998
Hays	71	Oct	12	7998
National Power	70	Jan	1:	1998
Prudential 3i	70 70	Oct	5 04	1998 1998
Ji Dizgeo	69	May No:	2	1998
Severn Trem	69.5	Oct	19	1998
WPP	69	Aug	10	1998
Carlton Communications Uniterer	69 69	Sept Feb	29 23	1998 1998
Scottish & Newcestle	69	res Mar	02	1998
Allied Domecq	68	Nov	30	1998
SmithKline Beecham	86	Sept	14	1998
HSBC Compass	36 8a	Aug July	17 20	1998
Rolls-Royce	67	Feb	16	1998
Rio Tinto	67	Nc.	17	1997
ICI	67	Mor	16	1998
Read Elsevier Amvescop	67 66	Jøn Sept	4 21	1999
Railtrack	66	Jon Jon	12	1998
Sema	64	Nor	23	1998
Tomkins	65	No-		1998
Abbey National Narwich Union	65 65	May Jan	25 19	1998
Alliance & Laicester	64	July	13	1998
Thames Water	64	Aug	03	1998
Moolwich Cfl.	63 63	Dec Dec	G1 23	1997 1998
Rentokil Initial	63 62	Dec	08	1998
J Sainsbury	62	Aug	24	1998
British Airways	61 .	Oct	20	1997
Pearson Royal & SunAlliance	59 58	Oct Mar	06 30	1997 1998
Sarciays	56 57	lan	30 26	1998
Safaway	54	Mar	09	1993
NetWest	54	Mar	23	1998
United Utilities Billiton	54 53	Apr	06	1998
Baltinon BAT industries**	53 49	Sop: Dec	7 15	1998 1997
BAI INGUSTRO:				

ch and merge BAT with Rothmans Source: THE TIMES 25th January 1999

The Times, in a recent survey* of the country's leading corporations, placed ScottishPower at the top. We'd like to thank all our customers, staff and shareholders for putting us in our natural place.



I Atlantic Quay Glasgow G2 8SP www.scattishpawer.plc.uk

"Just under 18 months ago. The Times started a unique analysis of the 100 leading Conpurations in Britain. The beard structure is analyses, as are the market's news of the companies, and a roung out of a 100 is given, paged on issues such as now well the Questions are said. Now the shares have performed and whether the company has a well explained and executed ethical policy.

March, the MPC meeting closely

preceding the Budget. But there

was little else in the bland state-

ment that accompanied vester-

date includes supporting the Gov-ernment's growth objectives —

and unlike the European Central

Bank there is no comfort zone for

inflation. If inflation is set to dip

below the 2.5 per cent target fig-ure, the Bank has to take action.

With some members of the MPC

clearly indicating that they would like to see interest rates

fall below an estimated "neutral"

level of 4.5 per cent to stimulate

the economy, the internal pressure remains for further cuts.

Not that this is likely to make much difference to the contrari-

ans of the stock market. Having pushed shares back towards

his colleagues on the Monetary Policy Committee continued their push for national continued the continued their push for national continued the continued their push for national continued the continued th for divital laung tional canonisation yesterday, the markets appeared strangely wrong-footed by the latest halfpoint cut in interest rates. Sure, the committee nature of the MPC has in the past produced a number of compromise decisions. The Bank may even have had an early sight of the revisions being carried out on the average earnings data and certainly received a report on pay pressures from its re-

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get on which to fix its sights — the City should have had enough clues as to the likely outcome. Just as most economists have substantially revised their infla-tion expectations downwards since November, there is little reason to believe the Bank would have modified its own prediction otherwise. The Bank has also demonstrated in the current rate-cutting spree that it is prepared to adopt a more activist style, making larger rate reductions in an effort to revive business and consumer confidence.

gional agents. But with the Quar-

terly Inflation report looming — providing the MPC with a firm tar-

The City consensus is that the Bank will now leave rates on hold for a few months before making another smaller move downwards towards 5 per cent by the end of the year. Certainly there is a research. there is a reasonable argument that the Bank will not move in

All at sea in the marketplace



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

day's decision to suggest that the Bank has any intention of repeating the experimental "pause" it undertook in late 1997. Given the record levels despite the gloomy City's poor recent record of foreshort-term economic outlook, the casting the Bank's behaviour, the latest rate cut brought only a benign inflation outlook and the short-lived initial cheer before continuing uncertainties about the market followed Wall Street the health of both the domestic lower. Indeed, with the market's and international economy, it eyes increasingly fixed abroad, seems more reasonable to expect suggestions that US rates might that the Bank will again surprise even have to rise and the ECB's with its generosity. It must be re-membered that the Bank's mandogmatic reluctance to consider an interest rate cut are far more likely to determine the stock mar-Crash reaches

Longbridge

ongbridge has been the ugly sister of the British motor industry longer than most can remember. At last, in a deal with unions, BMW agreed last December to make good years of under-investment by other owners that left produc-tivity way behind best standards. Oddly, there has appeared a re-

markable lack of urgency to get

this vital programme moving. Now we know why. Bernd Pischetsrieder, the friendly face of German ownership, may have been on the same wavelength as Brummie workers, but was not it seems, able to convince the Munich hard men back home.

The five year strategy of reviving Rover's mid-market car business, rather than just Land Rover and the Mini, has got nowhere. Why pursue it at such huge cost when there is likely to be a world surplus of more mod-ern capacity for a decade? BMW is highly profitable, mi-nus Rover. But it is not big

enough in the world car league to throw investment and sustain beavy losses for several years at a factory that would, at best, be peripheral to its corporate future. What made sense in 1994, when BMW bought Rover, now looks different. In the past two years, the outlook for the global car market and the industry's structure have been transformed. Longbridge has become a costly irrelevance, a lump of capacity ripe to be rationalised to the benefit of those that survive. The big questions in Munich seem to be whether to sell to General Motors, merge with Honda or forge a new survival strategy.

In Britain, however, Longbridge cannot be dismissed so cavalierly, especially by a Government whose predecessors. alongside the forerunners of today's union leaders, must bear much of the blame for its ills. Under the BMW plan, it was to re-

tain 14,000 manufacturing jobs.
These are key jobs and skills for the West Midlands. On them also hang the future prospects of the components industry, which is already under threat from other is already under threat from oth-

er global mergers. Herr Pischetrieder is a gentle-man who earned the respect due to one such, not least in becoming the preferred inheritor of the Rolls-Royce car brand. He also knew that BMW would not have

been allowed to buy Rover without commitment to its car range. If BMW is now to play hardball, as it may need to, the Government should again reply in kind, using every fair trick or foul to save Longbridge, if not in BMW's hands then in someone else's. No excuses for failure.

Retailers should use their loaf

logging basic commodity items for next to nothing is a familiar of mail for permarkets in quiet times. Once it was baked beans at 5p a tin. Now it is bread at 9p or 7p a loaf.

The game is ritualistic. The first to cut, in this case Asda, wins publicity as a champion of consumers. Responders, such as Tesco and Kwik Save, then match or beat the first cut to back up their own price promises.
The loss leader should attract

more people into their stores, until we all tire of the game and prices go back to normal. At downmarket Kwik Save, the loaf now selling at 7p normally rates 17p.
Supermarkets claim this is harmless fun that helps hard-up shoppers. Not any more. Asda et

al should know by now that they are being watched. The Office of Fair Trading is already trying to resolve claims that the big four are profiteering at the expense of hard-pressed British farmers, abusing their market power to

squeeze suppliers and mark prices up heavily to consumers.
Bread is a different case. The main potential losers are the remaining independent bakers and corner shops who might be driven out of business before the

big chains hike prices back up. If game-players are to avoid a full monopoly vetting, they may have to convince the OFI that 17p is not profiteering, yet 7p is not predatory pricing. If they suc-ceed, on the grounds that loss leaders are time-honoured, they still need to explain their crass timing to anxious investors.

Breakdown

RAC members ruing their missing £33,000 cheques should have seen the smile on the face of Neil Johnson, chief executive of their breakdown service yesterday. The aborted merger allowed RAC's people to pore over wouldbe partner Green Flag and get a much better idea of what their business could be worth. There is no going back. Having escaped the mess that is Cendant, they now face a queue of venture capitalists anxious to be almost as generous. The undeserving will get their big cheques after all.

Wolves victorious in bid battle with Marston's

BY DOMINIC WALSH

WOLVERHAMPTON & Dudley Breweries has emerged victorious from its tit-for-tat bidding battle with Marston Thompson & Evershed, the rival brewer, after securing a resounding 73.45 per cent of Marston's shares.

The result brings down the curtain on what had become an increasingly bitter battle during the four months since Wolves first admitted it was stalking its Midlands neighbour. It also means that the audacious £330 million Marston's counterbid for Wolves,

Tesco in talks with Samsung

By Sarah Cunningham

TESCO, the supermarkets group which bought a hypermarket business in Thailand last year, is in talks to enter the South Korean market.

The company is in ad-

vanced negotiations with Samsung Corporation, the trading arm of the Samsung Group. to set up a joint venture with its retail division. Samsung Corporation runs two department stores in Seoul and two discount centres in Taegu and Pusan. Samsung is also believed to be talking to a Japanese trad-ing company. Tesco declined to comment.

The British food retailer is also investigating possi-bilities in Taiwan. Tesco said last month that its Lotus hypermarket in Thailand "continued to recover trade in difficult economic conditions and finished with like-for-like sales running ahead of last year".

in a so-called Pac-Man defence, now lapses.

Shares in Marston's reacted by frothing 21½p higher to 306½p, while Wolves gained 11½p to 469p. At those prices, the final Wolves bid values its target at about £295 million, compared with its original of-fer worth £262 million, although it will also assume debts of £110 million. Marston's shareholders will receive 230p in cash and 0.175 new Wolves shares for each

David Thompson, managing director of W&DB, described the result of the vote as "a ringing endorsement of the strategy we have proposed. Whereas the Marston's Pac-Man bid had envisaged closing W&DB's two breweries to focus on managed pubs, Mr Thompson intends to keep all three breweries and about 1,500 of the com-

The Marston's takeover with it several wellknown brands, including Pedigree Bitter and the fashionable Pitcher & Piano chain of bars. Both will be retained, although Mr Thompson has agreed to sell 170 pubs to Greene King for about £80 million and has earmarked another 250 tenancies for immediate disposal.

Although the Wolves victory had been widely expected, Mr Thompson said: "I didn't know until midday whether we'd won. I remained on the edge of my seat until the very last moment." Allowing himself a wry smile after the re-suit, he added: "I shall look forward to sampling a pint of Ped-igree at the Burton brewery in

Mr Thompson estimated the total costs of the deal, including the cost of Marston's abortive securitisation deal with Nomura, at about £30 million. However, he has promised to extract at least £17 million in annual savings from putting the two companies together— there will be 250 job losses— and believes the deal provides a platform for enhancing share-

due course."

holder returns.

He added: "The regional brewers have been out of fabelieve consolidation is the way forward and that this deal will help to bring the sector back into favour."

Nick Letchet and Mike Thompson, respectively chief executive and finance director of Marston's, who earned plaudits in the City for the way they handled the defence, are not expected to be offered jobs in the enlarged Wolves.



Eyes on expansion: John Bowner, chief executive of the Swiss company Adecco, left, with Tony Reeves, his Delphi counterpart

Delphi chiefs in bid bonanza

DIRECTORS of Delphi Group looked set to benefit from a multi-million pound bonanza yesterday after the IT recruitment company received a £167 million takeover

The offer, from Adecco, the Swiss personnel services company, values the stake held in Delphi by Rony Reeves, its chief ex-ecutive, at £3.6 million. Doug Woodward, a US non-executive director of Delphi, will see his stake valued at £2.4 million. Delphi's board has already recommended Adecco's cash offer, which values the special 15p interim dividend. The offer represents a 50.7 per cent premium to the clos ing price of Delphi shares on January 29. The shares rose 571/2p to 550p yesterday.

One year ago the shares traded at 8274p. John Bowner, chief executive of Adecco. said Delphi would provide his company with a critical mass in the IT personnel services market around the world.

especially in Europe.
"We will use Delphi as a springboard to expand into continental Europe," he said. The acquisinon will help boost Adecco's revenues from IT to almost \$1 billion

company at 565p a share. This includes a (£600 million), accounting for about 10 per cent of its total sales.

> Mr Bowner said that Adecoo was not planning any job cuts following the merger, as Delphi would be added, not integrated, into its existing operations. Adecco has a network of 3,000 offices in 48 countries. The company is listed on the Swiss, Paris and Frankfurt exchanges.

> Yesterday Delphi announced the sale of its 30.5 per cent interest in Decan, a French IT recruitment company, for £25.3

Step up for Fitness First | Microsoft video blunder

FTTNESS FIRST, the AIM-listed health and fitness club operator, is to move to the Stock Exchange's official list in an attempt to improve its ability to raise new funds for expansion (Dominic Walsh writes).

Michael Balfour, managing director, said: "We've probably got sufficient cash to fund our expansion for the next 12 to 18 months, but that could change. If the right opportunihave the kind of investors on

board to be able to tap them for money.

Since its AIM flotation in October 1996, the group's UK presence has grown from six clubs to 36 and it has another 33 in the pipeline. Its German joint venture, which has nine units, has another 14 in the pipeline, and Mr Balfour said that he was seeking similar opportunities in Spain. The Netherlands and Belgium.

Total UK memberships increased from almost 24,000 to more than 52,000 last year, contributing to a doubling of pretax profits to £2.7 million in the year to October 31. Earnings per share reached 8.04p (4.36p). but there will be no dividend until next year as profits are ploughed into new openings. Mr Balfour said that the

company's "affordable fitness" concept means it is well placed to withstand any economic downturn.

Tempus, page 30

MICROSOFT has suffered its most embarrassing day in court as a video demonstration it offered in its defence to an anti-trust action was exposed as false (Oliver August

writes from New York). The software company tried to show the problems with a program written by a Justice Department technician and used as evidence in support of its anti-trust action. The program separates the Windows operating system from Microsoft's Internet browser. The Justice Department claims that Microsoft integrated the two products to gain control of the browser market.

In its defence, Microsoft sug-gested that the browser and the operating system could not be split without creating computer problems. In its video, it tried to show those problems. However, it turned out that it had failed to use the department's separation program al-

though it claimed to have done

to have to go back and find out what happened. They filmed the wrong system and proba-bly grabbed the wrong screen

The Justice Department said the incident was "obviously embarrassing to Microsoft" and tried to use it to under mine the defence's credibility.

so. The department saw the in-

consistency on the menu bar

of the filmed computer screen.

James Allchin, a Microsoft

technician, said: "I am going

US sale welcomed by SB investors

By Paul Durman

INVESTORS in SmithKline Beecham have welcomed the prospect that the drugs group is planning to sell Di-versified Pharmaceutical Services, the American business bought for \$2.3 billion (£1.4 billion) in 1994.

SB is believed to be close to a deal that may come as soon as next week. Although the group is expected to take a heavy loss on the disposal, its shares rose almost 4 per cent

yesterday to 835!-p.
The sale of Diversified will represent an admission of error by Jan Leschly, SB's ebullient chief executive. The acquisition of Diversified was Mr Leschly's first big strategic move, a deal struck within weeks of his taking over as

chief executive. Diversified is a pharmaceutical benefit manager (PBM). which controls the drugs bought under employer healthcare plans. PBMs were omeny seen to noid the key to the US healthcare market, but regulatory restrictions have prevented Diversified from fa-

vouring SB drugs. Eli Lilly, the American pharmaceuticals group, has already taken an enormous loss on its PBM, which it sold last year to Rite Aid, a

drugs retailer. John Murphy, analyst at Goldman Sachs, suggested that SB may be planning to drop its total healthcare strategy to focus on pharmaceuticals, the most profitable of its

businesses. This would pose doubts over the future of Clinical Laboratories, the US blood and urine-testing business that is

under persistent pressure to "The best returns have tradi-

tionally come from the pure pharma plays like Glaxo Wellcome and Pfizer." Mr Mur-Diversified is not thought to

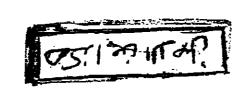
make any money for SB. Mr Leschly has previously defended its contribution, saying it provides useful information for the rest of the group.

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Speculators circle FKI in the hope of an offer

IF YOU take the view that there is no smoke without fire. then we can assume that there is a bid on the way for FKI.

raced up 13p to 169p in heavy turnover that saw almost II million shares change hands by the close of business. Not bad for a company that lost its chief executive last year and subsequently saw its share price plunge from 227p to a low of 1020p in October.

Trading has proved difficult for the company. In November Bob Beeston, chief executive, gave a gloomy rundown of prospects. In spite of a 13.5 per cent increase in profits at the halfway stage, he said that the group was vulnerable to the worldwide recession.

The group's current price tag of £963 million means that any bidder could pick up the business for a snip.

One broker said: "We have seen a lot of sharp price movements in the engineering sector. There has been talk of various bids, but today's move in FKI has been backed by solid turnover in the shares."

There was little apparent response to the half-point cut in interest rates with the London market giving up a 101-point lead to close virtually unchanged on the day. London's reversal followed opening falls on Wall Street, where prices gave ground in response to the threat of belt tightening by the Federal Reserve. The FTSE 100 index finished 0.4 down at 5.939.9 so once again it was left up to second-liners to generate interest with the FTSE 250 index up 19.4 at 5,232.6. Turnover was again more than a billion shares.

The buyers were chasing Northern Leisure, sharply higher with a rise of 9p to 138p. It follows comments in this column linking the group to rival Luminar, up 27/4p to 760p. Word from the marketplace suggests Luminar may be prepared to offer an all-share deal

in excess of 200p.

EM1 Group was the best performer among the top 100 with a rise of 32p to 432p. Warburg Dillon Read, the broker, has raised its recommendation on the shares from "hold" to "buy" on the back of its involvement in the Internet.

British Telecom eased another 31:p to 9501:p but Goldman Sachs, the US securities house, has been waxing lyrical about prospects, having raised



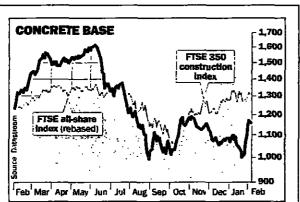
Sir Colin Southeate, chairman of EM1, the shares of which rose 32p to 432p, buoyed by its Internet interests

its target price from \$80p to £11. It follows the decision by BT to invest a further 55 billion over the next five years. It rates the shares a "market out-

Rival Cable & Wireless received a welcome boost from its mobile telephone interests catapulting the price 33p to 865-p. The group has seen customers for its One-2-One sub-

sidiary pass the two million mark for the first time.

There was an almost audible sigh of relief from the high street retailers to news of the latest cut in bank base rates. It is hoped the move will help to boost consumer expenditure. Debenhams advanced 15p to 4139:p, and there were rises at Kingfisher, 26p to 666p. Allied Carpets, 4p to 39p. Boots,



HOUSEBUILDERS have enjoyed fresh stimulus during the past week as signs of a pick-up in the housing market have been underninned by the latest cut in interest rates. Now there are also signs of a revival for the construction industry.

"unsolicited approach" for Swan Hill Group, formerly Higgs & Hill, which responded with a rise of 23p to 68: p. The company's most recent published net asset value is 115p a share. The identity of the suitor was not

disclosed. Mark Hake at Merrill Lynch, the broker, said: "You are probably looking at housebuilder, a regional or national player most of Swan's business is." City speculators claim this of moves aimed at consoli-

dating the industry. Those also seen as possible takeover targets include Henry Boot, up 15p at 210p. Birse Group, 1-p to 101-p. EBC Group, 1p to 56p. and Tilbury Douglas. 2 p to liap to 896iap. JJB Sports. lip to 365p. New Look. 16p to 145p, and Wickes, 175p, to 249%p. Hamleys also stood out with a rise of lop to 142p. Three seperate lines totalling 560,000 went through the market late on Wednesday at the 140p level, a sizeable premium

to the ruling price. By contrast, the banks gave up an early lead perturbed by increased competition and reduced margins. Royal Bank of Scotland fell 36% p to £11.52% HSBC 29p to £16.20, and Lloyds TSB 221:p to 7951:p.

The speculators continued to drive BICC higher with a rise of almost 44p to 824p. Wassall holds about 9 per cent of the shares and continues to monitor the possibility of mak-

The 140p a share offer for Stakis Hotels, up 25p to 137p, generated speculative support for the rest of the hotels sector. Jarvis Hotels, up 9p to 10314p. is seen as the next target for a bidder, while support was also seen in Millennium & Copthorne, 32p to 474%:p. Macdonald Hotels. 5p to 155 -p. However. Ladbroke fell 4: p to 238: p.

Thistle Hotels advanced 5p to 142%p having hit a low of 103 p in December, following the breakdown in takeover talks when the price stood at the 200p level.

High-flying ARM Holdings continued to power ahead with the price, lifting 155p to £20.374. This gave one director the opportunity to cash in some of his chips. Robin Saxby, chief executive, has sold 60.000 shares at £19.80 reducing his holding to 1.34 million, or 2.85 per cent.

AJM-listed Gartland Whalley & Barker rose 84:p to 103 p on the back of further share purchases by the board. Anthony Gardand has bought 25.000 shares at 95p taking his total holding to 53.2 million shares, or 61.5 per cent. GILT-EDGED: The prospect of strong US non-farm paytoli numbers läter toda

undermined Treasury bonds

and left gilts nursing losses on

the day. Sentiment appeared

unaffected by the half-point

cut in base rates. In the futures pit the March series of the long gilt fell 53p to £118.63.

☐ NEW YORK: US shares caught the bond markets' interest rate cold. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 36.56 points to

MAJOR INDICES

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IT ALMOST beggars belief. Imperial Chemical Industries used to be the core shareholding. From Throgmorton Street to Tunbridge Wells the initials ICI were synonymous with UK equity market investment. Can it really be that the fortunes of ICI are so bad, and the prospects so poor, that the time has come to cut the cord from the mother of all stocks?

Sadly, yes. Without the pharmaceutical ex-citement of Zeneca, ICI's commodity chemicals business has long looked weak. In a last roll of the dice new ICI bet the ranch buying Unilever's specialty chemicals for £5 billion. But disposals of the commodity chemicals side - required to pay off debt taken on to finance the Unilever deal — have not come quickly enough. ICI's ambitious programme to shake off its old persona hir the buffers when the US's Federal Trade Commission

blocked the El billion sale of its tioxide operation to DuPont. Last year it encountered a similar block over the £285 million sale of Crosfield to WR Grace in the US. Now buyers are scarce and even if buyers can be drummed up ICI is unlikely to get as decent prices. Little prospect, therefore, for a speedy reduction of the £4.2 billion debt mountain.

And without off-loading the undesired commodity operations ICI cannot push ahead into its new areas. To be fair, progress with fine chemicals for use in fragrances such as Tonimy Girl and Avon's Woman of the Earth lightened an otherwise gloomy set of results yesterday.

The unchanged 32p dividend supports the current share price but without a rapid turnaround future payments are threatened. Meanwhile, a rescue takeover seems unlikely.

Stakis

SO DAVID MICHELS and his magic Stakis Hotels have got Ladbroke uncressor ... bid. Shareholders who have Michels ridden with Mr Michels since his arrival in late 1991 have seen returns well in excess of twice the market average. Those involved longer can thank him for pulling the company back from the brink

of collapse. Now it looks like Stakis shareholders will have the chance to exit, and the price could be a good deal higher than the market price of 137p currently indicates.

Stakis is in such good shape that Ladbroke is unlikely to be alone in showing interest. Whitbread immediately springs to mind and encourag-ingly for Stakis holders, Whitbread has never knowingly underpaid for acquisitions viz David Lloyd Leisure and

holders should demand nothing less than 180p and the likelihood that their demands The appearance of Whit-

will be heard means there are quick profits for buyers here. will be greeted warmly by

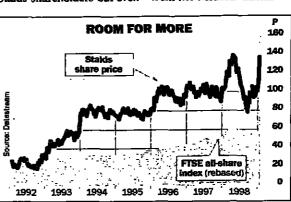
the UK Marriott hotel busi-

ness. Ladbroke's sighting shot

bread in the auction house Stakis shareholders but even

more likely that Ladbroke will win control. If it does it also seems likely that Mr Michels will be hired by Ladbroke - a former employer And as long as Ladbroke is allowed to make its offer, at least partly, in shares, that would give Stakis holders the chance to continue benefiting from Mr Michels' talents.

at this early stage it seems



Delphi

GENEROUS as it may seem at first sight, shareholders in Delphi may feel short-changed by Adecto's 565p-a-share cash offer. Two years ago the IT recruitment com-

pany's shares were at 905p. But fortunes changed after a series of management blunders that led to an aborted tilt at the Nasdaq stock market in the US. A profit warning -caused when Delphi failed to to see that too many of the computer nerds on their books were on holiday at the same time — deepened the

bombed to 246p in October. So compared to two years ago Adecco's 565p cash offer (including a "special" interim dividend of (5p), may look disappointing. But given the trials of the past 18 months, it is too good to pass up. The offer values Delphi at

£167 million, a 51 per cent premium to its closing price of 375p on January 29 and more than double the lows plumbed last October.

The price takes into account Delphi's market leadership in the UK and probably a bit more. Shareholders might want to hold out for a better offer, but it is likely that Tony Reeves, the chief executive of Delphi who stands to make £3.6 million from the deal, has cast around for the best deal. With Adecco mopping up 22 per cent of the shares in the market yesterday, it looks like a done deal.

Fitness First

MANAGEMENT at Fitness First, which has grown from six to 45 clubs since it floated on AJM in October 1996, has attracted little but praise during its short stock market history. Shares in the firm have also recovered well from last summer's sudden loss of confidence in the leisure sector.

After sparkling results yes-terday, shareholders can be

While the doubling of profits was largely down to new openings, there was encouraging evidence that mature clubs are growing profits too. Its first club, located in Bournemouth, has increased profits every year for six years with no rise in subscrip-

Low subs — at E31 a month half the cost of snootier operators such as Vardon and First Leisure — should assure growth at Fitness First even if the fashion for fitness wanes or gym-goers' wallets feel the unpleasant chill of recession. But the health and fitness market is still relatively unde veloped and Fitness First's target of having 100 clubs is not outrageous. Moreover. with 80 per cent of revenues coming through direct debits inertia plays to its advantage.

The racy rating reflects growth prospects and its managerial abilities. Nevertheless, accumulate.

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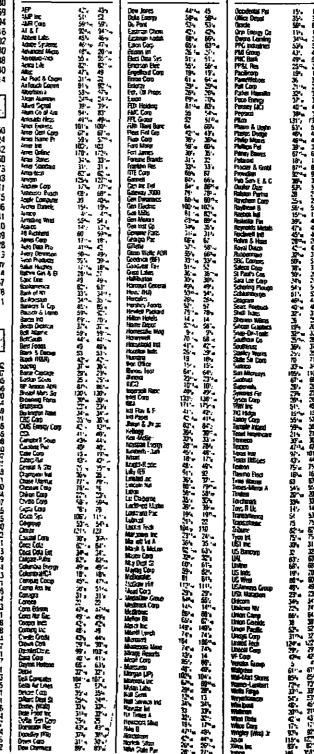
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confident that Fitness First **EDITED BY ROBERT COLE** will continue to impress. WALLSTREET **DOLLAR RATES** 1.5527-1 5540 1 4933-1,4943 6.5950-6.5980 Euro..... Hong Kong... Japan Malaysia 7.6680-7.6780 1.6878-1.6888 7.3740-7.8840



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Community banking key to assault on social exclusion

Prosperous Britain must genuinely be beginning to believe that the experiment with an independent Bank of England is proving a success. The latest rate cut yesterday provided another boost for homeowners and businesses alike, leaving interest rates at their lowest level for more than four years.

Yet for all the emphasis on the machinations of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), there is a substantial section of society for whom the latest rate cut will make little difference. The sink estates of the inner cities have been largely bypassed in the recent economic boom. With no mortgages and little access to bank finance, the inflation views of Eddie George are about as relevant as the financial crisis at the Royal Opera House. In one of its bolder policy

moves, the Government has made trying to end the "social exclusion" suffered by those inhabiting the fringes of the British economy a top priority. It has pledged to spend £800 million over the next three years supporting policies de-signed to tackle traditional poverty issues such as homelessness and poor housing, through to the more recently identified problems of mobile phone deprivation and

"shopping desert" areas. Some 17 inner-city "pathfinder" areas have been identified to run pilot projects with the aim of rolling out successful start-ups to other areas. No less than 18 special action task forces have been established to provide policy support.

Only one action group, however, has been specifically charged with the fundamental task of devising ways of encouraging busi-

the shirt producer, and Heel,

which makes homeopathic

remedies. Within Germany it

is thought that this is a preparation for a career that should

see him eventually become

head of BMW's supervisory

If you own all these compa-

nies, and half of BMW on top

of that, all you really need to

do is cash in the annual divi-

dend and spend the rest of the

year shopping. However, the Quandt family prefers instead

its position of authority at

BMW, it has to reinvest each

time the companies float new

shares. That is only possible if

the investment provides

enough returns.

conservative investments.

board.

BUSINESS OF POLITICS

nesses back into no-go regions. Lacking the big names of many of the Government's more high-profile task forces, its work has gone largely unnoticed. Beyond Ed Mayo, the head of the left-leaning New Economics Foundation, the task force consists mainly of anonymous civil servants and voluntary sector workers with only Andrew Robinson, community manager at NatWest Bank, providing representation from the mainstream corporate sector.

The absence of widespread business representation on the social action task forces reflects a deep-seated failing that is as much the fault of Government as business. As Mr Robinson says, Britain has tradi-



tionally approached social exclusion problems by throwing money at deprived communities. There is now a general acceptance that this has not only proved ineffective but may even have heightened the problem by creating grant depend-

ency. The new thrust of policy is to find wavs for these communities to tap into the mainstream financing, to try to ensure long-term viability. It is no coincidence that Mr Robinson, a Canadian by birth, learnt his skills in the far more developed community banking markets of North America.

The US has long defined the need for adequate commercial finance as the root of the problem. The Community Reinvestment Act has attempted to arrest the drift into the suburbs by forcing banks to lend wherever they raise deposits, while niche community lending banks have sprung up in the inner cities. The British Government has for

ing such community lending compulsory, unconvinced this would genuinely help many of the most deprived areas. Although about 20 per cent of the population does not hold a bank account, the Banks retort that only 1 per cent are ever refused an account and the problem is as much the reluctance of certain sections of the population to seek out a mainstream lender as any mass discrimination.

the moment backed off from mak-

Mr Robinson believes that the experience of banks such as South Shore in Chicago will provide a far more useful model for bridging the funding gap. South Shore has developed a strong hold on central Chicago banking by developing a new risk model for the local home loans market. It found that strategic lending has a knockon effect, encouraging nearby

ing in their houses and, as the street improves, attracting businesses back into the locality. As Mr Robinson emphasises, for the US banks this is profit-driven rather than a charitable or PR exercise. Noticeably, NatWest is treating its community banking experiments as a marketing exercise rather than a charity project.
Profitable, however, does not mean that this form of banking

will ever produce an acceptable rate of return. Niche community banks will be able to take some of the strain, but a nationwide solution will still require support from the large retail banks. The Government can try to coax and cajole, but ultimately a serious assault on social exclusion is going to need an immense amount of private sec-

Family ties that drive BMW forward

Sigrid Aufterbeck reports on the emergence of a new generation at one of Germany's industrial dynasties

ernd Pischetsrieder has had a long and distinguished career in German industry. Yet as the BMW chief executive faces the car and motorcycle maker's supervisory board today, he might reflect that his future is being determined by two factors - the unpopularity of Rover among British car buyers, and the influence of two billionaires in their thirties.

The feeling in Bavaria is that the decision that could end Herr Pischetsrieder's career at BMW, lies in the hands of Susanne Klatten and Stefan Quandt, the heirs of the family that controls BMW. Today's meeting will be the first significant move by the 36-year-old businesswoman and mother of three, and her 33-year-old

The pair joined BMW's supervisory board two years ago. Along with Johanna Quandt, their mother, they hold 45.6 per cent of BMW's shares.

Despite their vast wealth. the two are regarded as being down-to-earth. Both would probably have succeeded in business, even without the benefit of the Quandt family

Susanne, who studied in Britain and has a BSc, started out in advertising before working at BMW and then in a bank. She went on to study in Lausanne and, in 1988, became an assistant to the publisher Hubert Burda, a job she left to work with her husband an independent entrepreneur - who spent some time at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MII) in Bos-

Despite having three children, she manages to spend much of her time at the family's corporate headquarters. the Gunther Quandt Haus (named after their grandfather), in the Hessen town of

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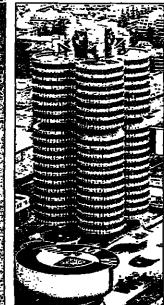
Bad Homburg. Her brother's CV reads equally well. Stefan studied economics and engineering at Karlsruhe University, and then worked for the Boston Consulting Group in Munich for four months, before joining the family's Datacard Corporation in the US. What was planned to be a six months' secondment lasted almost three

Kong marketing Datacard. Since 1996 he has worked fulltime at Bad Homburg. Thanks to their father's desire to expose his children to every element of the Quandt family's diverse empire, both Susanne and Stefan are not merely involved in BMW. Susanne is significant shareholder of Altana, a pharmaceutical and chemicals company. Stefan owns Delton, a holding company whose sub-sidiaries include Van-Laack,



Bernd Pischetsrieder, the chief executive of BMW, who faces his supervisory board today

Holding the Key: Susanne Klatten, right, with her mother, Johanna, second from the right, at a ceremony to commemorate the opening of the Herbert Quandt school in Pritzwalk, the town where the family comes from



BMW's headquarters, which

creasingly common. Among the "grooms around the bride" were Ferdinand Piech, head of rival carmaker, VW, who is still licking his wounds after losing the rights to the Rolls-Royce name to BMW.

This is because the Ouandt to concentrate on its policy of developing its fortune through family's relationship with BMW is not merely financial.
The company might not even However, the bigger those exist if it wasn't for the entrecompanies become, the more difficult it gets to introduce cappreneurial guts of Susanne ital for further expansion. If and Stefan's ancestors. the family wants to maintain

The family is descended from Dutch immigrants who settled and became wealthy from the textile trade in the Brandenburg town of Pritz-Günther Quandt - who

It is a problem that the Sielived from 1881 to 1954 - inmens family has had to face creased the family's fortune up to - with less success. After through clever investments in the Second World War it consumer products and batteries, which boomed during the owned a fifth of Siemens, but now holds less than 2 per cent. 1920s and 1930s. He was a big Both Susanne Klatten and backer of both DaimlerBenz, Stefan Quandt have repeatedand BMW, which at that time ly emphasised that they intend made its name as a manufacto keep BMW independent. turer of aero-engines and moand have resisted all takeover bids, which have become in-

torcycles.
After the war, with the Ger-

man aero industry in ruins, BMW focused on automobiles, which they had started building on a small scale during the 1920s. The postwar years saw legendary models, praised by designers, but which sold badly and nearly drove BMW out of business. Facing bankruptcy, the shareholders were presenteded with a takeover-bid by Daimler-

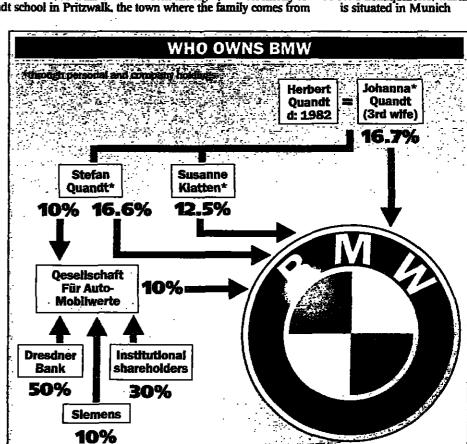
Howeve, at a meeting in late 1959 that was to become legendary, the investors surprisingly turned down the bid, and as the management dithered, Herbert Quandt, Günter's son, stepped into the breach. He provided the lion's share of the rescue capital and developed the company's strategy of building affordable, high-qual-

Before Herbert Quandt died in 1982, his billions were distributed among his six children from three marriages. His first daughter Sylvia, a painter, was given a private income. Sonja, Sabina and Sven from his second marriage received shares in the Vatra Group. However, the huge package of BMW shares went - among other investments to his family with Johanna, his third wife, and their two chil-

The two youngsters initially kept their BMW investment at arm's length. Herbert Quandt had installed Johanna, and Graf von der Golz, a trusted friend, as custodians. In 1997, when Herr von der Golz and Johanna, both turned 70, they handed over their seats on the BMW supervisory board to Susanne and Stefan. Johanna, however, has kept her stake in BMW, and remains as the "Grand Old Dame".

Eberhard von Kuenheim, the legendary chief executive who is credited with restoring BMW's fortunes, also continues to wield considerable influence. A member of the supervisory board since he retired in 1993, he has overseen the struggle between Herr Pischetsrieder and Wolfgang Reitzle. Analysts have criticised his decision to install Herr Pischetsrieder, but give Herr Reitzle almost as much power in the company (it is said they both earn the same salary).

Herr von Kuenheim, who will retire from the supervisory board this May, must face up to the fact that his decision to allow a rivalry at BMW's top has had disastrous results. Today's meeting might show that Susanne Klatten and Stefan Quandt are now willing to make themselves heard and introduce a new era at BMW.





Business**Life TOMORROW**

Once more unto the breach dear friends: Management training with Henry V

years, including time in Hong Rome groan

OUR own dear BAA is poised to bid for the two airports serving Rome, the fifth-busiest in Europe if you combine their respective traffic volumes. If this happens it will be despite a bit of last-minute chauvinism on the part of some Italian MPs. BAA - which I call British Airports Authority whenever I run out of pens, because they always sent you one with the right name on it in mute correction - is in with Carlo de Benedetti's holding company

CIR. The Italian Parliament

was yesterday to have sanc-tioned the sale of 54 per cent of the company that operates the

"Don't panic dear. we're in luck"

airports but does not seem to have got around to it.

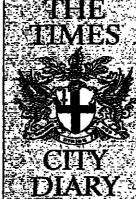
BAA is therefore waiting for the official clearance to bid, at a cost of about £450 million. There has been strong opposition to the sale to any foreign concern. The presence of de Benedetti, who will have a minority stake, could lessen this, although any formal insistence that he be included would be contrary to the Treaty of

There is a second possible bidder, a consortium including Benetton. Pirelli and the fashion house Trussardi. A curious combination, and one hopes the wind is with BAA.

A CITY type arrived back from lunch the other day to find a note from a fairly new secretary that a regular contact had rung. So could he ring soand so at Golden Sucks.

Double date

THE campaign by Marks & Spencer to endear itself to the City after the disasters of late last year has not started well. M&Š has called retail analysts to its Baker Street headquarters for a briefing on the evening of February 18.



Unfortunately this is the day of the annual dinner of investment analysts at the Grosvenor House, a sacred date in any scribblers' diary as the investor relations people really should have known.

Retail analysts are less than happy. They will miss at least the pre-dinner G&Ts and possibly the first course.

It all seems so like the M&S of old. Not only will the analysts start off feeling negative, it is unlikely many will be able to remember much of the briefing the next morning. Or be in any fit state to write it down.

Just the job

THE CV of Peter Bennett, one of those senior ING Barings executives who left in October after the resignation of chairman Marinus Minderhoud and the loss of 1,200 jobs, arrives on my desk. The muchtravelled Bennett has just landed a job at JM, the information

technology headhunter. His career, as it is set out, is impossible to credit unless he has access to a convenient time machine. Furthermore, he doesn't ever seem to have joined Barings, let alone left it. Bennett admits that the ac-

count does, indeed, contain errors, and that they are his. So there you have it. The headhunter who could not draw up his own CV.

A READER has decided to renew the rental on his mobile phone. This was bought for E149 on one of those cheap Pay Once For The Whole Year deals Vodalone attempts to charge him more than £200 for the next year's

He points out that the latest one-year introductory offer is for just £129. What is to stop him from junking the earlier deal and taking up this offer, so saving more than £70?

rental.

Nothing. Vodafone con-firms to me that it is indeed cheaper to throw away the phone and sign up for another one than to keep the old phone and rent it for another year. "It's called competition." The most worrying thing is

that only myself and the reader seem to see anything remote-

I my tease

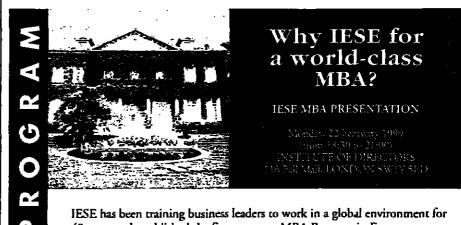
AN OLD associate of the late Tiny Rowland calls, amused by Lonrho's proposed change of name to Lonmin. He was with Rowland in Africa shortly after the end of white minority rule in Rhodesia and the change of name to Zimbabwe.

Tiny met the new Zimbabwean president, Robert Mugabe, who suggested that the company change its named from Lon-rho, as in London and Rhodesia, to reflect the country's new name. "Robert," said Tiny. Whoever heard of a name like Lonzim? Nobody would take us seriously."

> MARTIN WALLER city diary@the-times.co.uk



Tongue-in-cheek Tiny Rowland won name game



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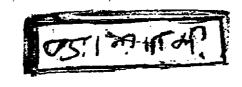
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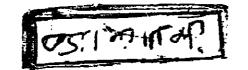
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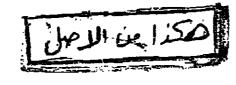
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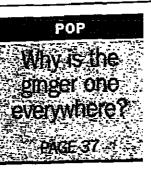




MUSIC Colin Davis stirs up the LSO's passions

PAGE 36

THE SETIMES





The Bard in fine rare form

ucked away at the back of the family Shakespeare. where most of us never venture, there is this long poem about a famous rape. It was a rape that led to the overthrow of the early kings of Rome, and it is better known than Shakespeare's poem. which only scores five entries in my Dictionary of Quotations.

The 265 verses, each of seven

lines, include passages of dialogue but much that is narrative, describing Lucrece's devotion to her husband Collatinus, and the passions seething this way and that in young Tarquin as his better impulses strive "to quench the coal which in his liver glows". This is not obviously stageable material and yet Theresa Shiban's production for Angelus Arts becomes 80 minutes of thrilling drama, incorporating speech for individuals and chorus, movement both stately and frenzied, and music of such excitement that the hairs on the back of one's neck stand up and wave.

In the square, plainly functional space of this theatre, in an area once part of Elizabethan Bankside between Blackfriars and Southwark Bridges, Shiban places the core of the action between two blocks of searing. But frequently the actors stride behind our seats: they use the double doors into some unseen corridor to represent the last of the portals protecting the sleeping Lucrece: and as Tarquin's lust looks certain to overwhelm his judgment her women spring up on to two of the supporting beams and ery out their verse from above.

The verse form Shakespeare uses here is known as thome myal and goes a-b-a-b-b-c-c. The way the rhymes sometimes follow immediately and sometimes skip a line brings a lively variety, whereas columns of rhymed couplets (thank

clping to ring up the curyear of Noël Coward's birth with one of many forthcoming tributes, this production is enjoyable enough, but hardly sets a benchmark for the rest.

Written in five days in 1941. Blithe Spirit gleefully wheels out psychics, ghosts and a barrage of paranormal paraphemalia, all in the service of a disconcertingly flippant invitation to laugh in the face of death. Summoned at a seance. author Charles Condomine's wayward (though very dead) first wife Elvira has far too riotous a time haunting him to go back whence she came. Charles rather enjoys having her around too, for a while, after he gets over the shock. But his

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you, Jean Racine) in England take us galumphing towards Pantoland. The company of seven actors begin with sequences of dumbshow that develop into dances somewhat gavotte-like. David Hollett is soon identified by his red mantle as Prince Tarquin, while the other men wear uniforms unadorned. His bearing is strong, easily adopting postures that are literally statuesque when standing with mantle flung over an outstretched arm. Like the rest of the company he speaks the unfamiliar verse with clarity and an evident understand-

missed by our national companies. Doubts and desires rage across his features, when he speaks and when he listens, and this same attention to what others are saying is present in Andrew Michell's Collatine (Shapespeare's spelling) and the Lucrece powerfully created by

Lucy Campbell.

Shabin's movement takes us into the hearts of her characters in such scenes as Tarquin's self-disgust. when ten hands claw at his skin. and Lucrece's stripping of the em-broidered trappings from her soiled bed. The physical expresses the psychological.

Sophie Jump's designs, bright details glowing against the sombre. are admirably judged, and the mu sic provided by Alicia Davies and Helen Leaf on such instruments as the bucarabu, krakch and waterphone is sensational.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Too much creaking when they ought to be haunting

present wife. Ruth, is having none of it, and the tussle between the two women comes to a deadly end. In Coward's light-fingered hand. though, hardly a tragic one: before you know it, the two have struck up a spirited alliance against their hap-

It's all fun and games, this death thing -- much more than boring old life. Of course the delicious superficiality is the point, and direc-

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tor Gareth Armstrong doesn't quite get it. At the end Charles has the air of a genuinely haunted man, as if Coward were trying to make a point about our need to treat people. properly lest they wreak their re-

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venge from the beyond — a beyond. as it happens, in which he had absolutely no belief. Come on: it's all just supposed to be silly - at the most, maybe, to make light of death in one of the darkest periods of the

It's always tempting - unfairly so - to compare actors in these clearly Coward-like parts to the man himself. Be that as it may, Robin Kermode as Charles just doesn't

have the indolent, arrogant charm. the twinkle in the eye, that the role demands. He barks out his lines and with Coward, never such a master of the witty epigram as, say. Wilde, it's all in the delivery. Better are Celia Nelson, playing a straight bat as Ruth, and Maircad Carty as

a nicely sluttish Elvira. Fenella Fielding whoops it up like a batty Sybil Fawlty as Madame Arcati, the gloriously eccentric medium, revelling in the hocus-pocus and histrionics. But on this night she spoilt things by fluffing an alarming number of lines. The spooky lighting, costumes and set design are faultless, but too much else is a touch creaky.

NIGEL CLIFF

An adolescent in Arabia

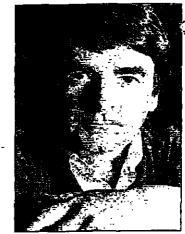
For the final day of our Penguin CD offer, David Lodge recalls how his musician father opened his ears to Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade

imsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade suite was. I believe, the first piece of classical music that I listened to with real pleasure and excitement from beginning to end. I was introduced to it at the age of 16 or 17 by my father (who, as I write this, is approaching his 92nd birthday). He was by pro-fession a dance musician. He was largely self-taught, a natural violinist who had taken up the saxophone and clarinet because there was more work to be had with those instruments in the Jazz Age. when he was a young man. He was

also a singer.

With this background I grew up with a taste for popular music, swing and, in due course, modern jazz. But when, in his forties, and my teens, my father began to ex-plore classical music as a listener, mainly with the aid of gramophone records borrowed from our local public library (for we were not well off and LPs were scarce and expensive). I found it more difficult to share his enthusiasm. I had never learnt a musical instrument myself (something I later came to regret) and knew nothing of the history of music; this no doubt made me initially unreceptive to the late Roman-tic and early modern composers my father favoured: Debussy, Ravel, Elgar, Rachmaninov, Delius, Sibelius. In due course I learnt to delight in all of them, but it was Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade which first convinced me that classical music could be as exciting and enjoyable as, say, the arrange-ments of Stan Kenton or the Mod-

ern Jazz Quartet. It is not difficult to see, in retrounus piece na powerful effect on an adolescent with a good, if untrained, ear for music and literary interests and aspirations. It is instantly accessible to anyone who has any musical feeling at all, full of haunting tunes. foot-tapping rhythms, lush orchestral textures and thrilling instrumental solos. It is highly emotive music, evoking a variety of moods excitement, fear, tenderness, longing - in quick succession. And it is about something, about love



Scheherazade is like wonderful film music, says David Lodge

and adventure, as novels and plays

In fact I have never sat down with the text of the Arabian Nights and tried to match the four movements of the suite precisely to the stories that inspired it - and it is not necessary to do so in order to feel the dramatic power of the music or to summon up appropriate images as one listens. Scheherezade is like wonderful film music for a movie that was never actually made, leaving each listener free to project it in his or her own head.

What makes the suite so appealing to comparatively unsophisticated listeners is Rimsky-Korsakov's application of a symphonic compositional method to musical material that has its roots in folk culture. both Russian and Oriental. Borodin's Polovisian Dances are often ings because they derive even more directly from the same kind of source. In the 1950s modern pop music paid homage of a kind to Borodin by borrowing one of the most litting melodies in the dances for the hit ballad, Stranger in Paradise, which my father used to sing ., at the nightclub where he then worked, and snatches of which he would sing at home when he was in a good mood - another reason why I associate this CD with him.

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Well, the curse of the lottery is much the same, only duller. It works like this. A cultural institution is awarded a lottery grant equivalent to the gross domestic product of Portugal, or at least the callout charge for a North London plumber. A recipe for bliss? Not bloomin' likely. Within weeks its management will be in disarray, finances wrecked, employees revolting. punters outraged, reputation shredded. I don't need to cite examples. You know what they are, and if there is one thing worse than in-

Read my lips and save our libraries

But one should warn when it is about to happen again - and it is. Only this time the curse of the lottery has blighted not some preposterously over-ambitious theatre, but the humblest and oldest servants of British mass culture: our local libraries.

I hesitate even to mention them. If 22 years in journalism have taught me anything, it is that little repels readers quicker than a worthy article about libraries. Ironic or what? But mention them I must, because they are in peril. The lottery curse has struck. Last year the Government decid-

ed to allocate E70 million of lottery money to a scheme called "New Library: the People's Network". Yes, it's a ghastly Blairite touchy-feely cliché of a title, but the scheme it-self is unobjectionable. By 2002 it will link all 4,000 public libraries

truding on private grief it is gloating over national humiliation. to the Internet, and (it is hoped) going over national humiliation. tween the "information rich" and the "information poor" with new technology as the Victorian lend-ing libraries did with those oldfashioned things called books.

The only problem is: will there be any libraries left by 2002? This month local councils finalised budgets for next year, and horrible details emerged of cuts in the cul-tural area. Westminster City Coun-cil, for instance — not exactly a body battered by intractable social problems - has just slashed its grants to arts organisations by a startling 28 per cent, and blamed "asylum seekers" for forcing its hand. Since its patch includes English National Opera, the Serpen-tine Gallery, the Wigmore Hall and several other internationally renowned arts organisations, the consequences for the capital's cultural life are grim.



RICHARD MORRISON

But libraries have always been the most favoured soft target for overstretched councils, and here the proposed cuts add up to an appalling assault on literature and literacy. Barnsley is proposing to close 22 branch libraries; Surrey 16. At least 15 London boroughs will close libraries this year. Round the

don't forget that 500 libraries have already closed since 1990.

If libraries aren't closed, their hours are curtailed. Britain may now be a 24-hour society, but libraries seem ever more inaccessible to working people whose spare time falls in the evenings or at weekends. Little wonder that book borrowing is down - by 22 per cent in five years in Glasgow, for instance. Funds for purchasing books are also being slashed; a report this month found that book stocks in city libraries had declined by 28 per cent since 1993.

What makes this woeful tale rather odd is that we are supposed to be engaged in a big national push to get kids and adults reading. This is allegedly "National Year of Reading". Literacy hour has been instituted in schools. Supermarkets and factories are co-operating in book-lending schemes

pers, including The Times, are backing a plan to put more books into schools. The Word, billed as "London's first festival of language and literature", assembles a dazzling array of scribes and scribblers next month.

B ut what good is icing when the cake is rotting? The curse of the lottery is that people get distracted by the megabucks available for the grand projet - in this case the "People's Network" - and neglect the boring but vital task of keeping their institution in day-to-day good health. In the case of the local library, we are talking not only about a place that lends books, records and tapes, but about one of the nubs of community life: a meeting-place, a civic noticeboard, a haven where kids from cramped and noisy

homes can study in peace.

Going to the library is still the fifth most popular pastime in Brit-ain. (The bad news is that the fourth most popular is "eating at a fast-food restaurant".) Abolish your local library, in other words, and you tear a gaping hole in that delicate cobweb called society.

At least the alarm has been sounded, albeit in sleepy fashion. Last Tuesday evening, while most people were transfixed by the England football manager and them things wot he said, a handful of MPs took part in an adjournment debate about library closures. It was useful to the extent that the Arts Minister, Alan Howarth, felt compelled to state that the Government "sees no justification whatever for cutting library services in the present financial climate".

Since his department is responsible for ensuring that local authorities fulfil their legal duty to provide 'comprehensive and efficient" library services, these were encouraging words. Deeds must swiftly follow. Otherwise the curse of the lottery will rot our tree of knowledge at its very roots.

Music under our skin

Why is the London Philharmonic

Orchestra planning to play at

Caribbean parties in South London? Nigel Williamson reports

travinsky played back to back with polyphonic music from the African equatorial rainforest. A liturgical mass in Latin embellished with improvised Sufi meditations. Orchestra members dispatched into the urban sprawl of South London to play at Asian weddings and Caribbean birthday par-

In the three years since he took over as chief executive and artistic director of the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Serge Dorny has created something approaching a cultural revolution on the South Bank. "I felt it was important for us to develop roots in the local community. They weren t aware of us and we weren t

aware of them." he says.
It is this thinking which has led Dorny to launch New Rituals/Old Rituals, a six-month programme in which his orchestra will spend much of its time at large in the community. A series of workshops will see LPO members interacting with groups from different cultural backgrounds in the surrounding boroughs of Southwark, Lewisham and Brixton. Together they will compose and create original music which will be performed in Celebrating the Journey, a

multi-media happening at Southwark Cathedral in July. "We need to have a feedback

from the community and to feed into it. We want to participate in its ceremonies so that, for example, if a Caribbean grandmother is celebrating her 75th birthday we can help to create some music that connects with that event. And in July, when all these different cultures are sharing the plat-form with the LPO. I hope it will generate a real synergy within the community."

The project, which Dorny

has instituted as an annual event and placed at the core of the LPO's activity, kicks off this weekend at the Festival Hall with an illustrative day of Roots-Classical Fusions. After an afternoon of workshops featuring music from the Caribbean, Ireland, India, Japan, Argentina and Turkey, an evening concert will feature one of the most extraordinarily diverse programmes ever put together by a major British symphony orchestra -The Rite of Spring and Cop-land's Appalachian Spring intermingled with bobongo music from Zaire, and Machaut's Messe de Notre Dame accompanied by the haunting sounds of the Turkish ney, an ancient flute used for a thou-

Common ground with Stravinsky: women of the Polyphony Ekonda group from Zaire, who will be performing at the Festival Hall tomorrow as part of the Roots-Classical Fusions day

sand years by the whirling der-

vishes of Mevlevi Sufism. "We want to bring in new audiences to experience music from different cultures and roots," says Dorny, "The stimulations of European and non-European music can be very similar. They often serve the same purpose. We are world citizens but that isn't reflected in our culture."

Which is why Dorny chose ritual music as this year's theme. "You can see the notion of ritual translated in world music and classical music using the same tools - primitive

rhythm, a certain kind of har-monics, repetitive figures, the will sing the mass, says: they had different harmonic .climaxes, the cumulative patdid it and the Bantu people utilise the same tools for a similar purpose. Unless you juxtapose them you are not aware of it. There is a vast common grammar in ritual, both pa-

gan and religious, and in the collectivity of the experience." Perhaps the most intriguing fusion of all will be the interfaith adventure of Machaut's 14th-century Christian mass embroidered by Islamic devotional music. David James of

"Serge approached us when terns. Stravinsky and Copland he first took over the LPO. He mon. At the end of the evening arrived with this vision to push back the barriers of music, which is exactly how we feel. We all assume classical music is the ultimate but when you get beyond Western Europe there is a whole other mu-

sical world full of ideas " The Hilliard recently recorded a Swiss television show in which they were asked to improvise with singers from Mongolia and Azerbaijan. "It was fascinating how quickly it scales we had so much in comit didn't seem strange at all."

Dorny concedes that it will be a confrontation of cultures but one that he hopes will be entirely positive. "Sufi music not only shares a time period with medieval masses but has similar structures, even though the traditions are different. These are introductions which hopefully we can take for the first time said they had

further. It can be a greenhouse for new works, new genres. new music, new experiences.' Has the Western classical tradition in the past been too

resistant to other musical cultures? "I think so. And the audiences, too. But it is more because they haven't been introduced to it. What I found when we first did this in Belgium was that the Western performers who were working with musicians from other cultures learnt more than they ever did

in the conservatoire. "The world music pioneers like Womad are having an ef-fect in regular concert halfs although it might take another 10 or 20 years. Mozart and Brahms assimilated the music of different cultures. Now we have access to so much more, why can't we do the same?" ■ Roots-Classical Fusions featuring the LPO conducted by Kent Nagano takes place at the Festival Hall (0171-960 4242) tomorrow

CONCERTS: French pleasures, a curious Scottish experience and a London homecoming

Surfeit of sweetmeat

wo tasty morsels by the 100th birthday boy, Poulenc, one slab of Milhaud, one pearl by Ravel: this was a death by chocolate concert. Most of this French music was meant for dancing, but the only one pirouetting on the platform was the conductor Charles Dutoit. At times the expressiveness of his dainry footwork, flexed shoulders and imploring arms outshone anything emerging from the Philharmonia. That was certainly the case during Le Boeuf sur le toit, Milhaud's pot-pourri of South American rhythms. But what can players do with little tunes sullied by smudged textures, or a structure barely

Wisely, they moved on to something better: Poulenc's D minor two-piano concerto of 1932, one of his most ingratiating pieces, fusing Stravinsky, Mozart, Balinese echoes and

New York

television documentary is current-

A ly bringing home the strains and stresses of orchestral tours. But

playing to enthusiastic audiences in for-

eign cities can also help to recharge the

batteries, and there was certainly no sign

of fatigue in the performance of the London Symphony Orchestra under Colin

Davis, just back from their residency in

The music they took with them includ-



popular song. Here Dutoit had competition from soloists Katia and Marielle Labèque, who always offer a good vaudeville turn. Notes were stabbed at, bodies flung back. Their fortissimo hammerings sometimes did Poulenc no favours. but whenever the music turned still and tender they were there waiting, minutely delicate in the gamelan sounds at the first movement's close, child-like and loving in the second's mock Mozart. After the interval we gath-

held together by sticky tape? ened for another chocolate feast, the five-movement suite from Les Biches, Poulenc's ballet written for Diaghilev. The orchestration may lack the con-

made the most of the toytown tunes, honking brass, and gooey harmonies. It was all deightfully insouciant.

What a relief, nonetheless, when Ravel's second suite from his own Diaghilev ballet, Daphnis et Chloe, a genuine masterwork, closed the concert. Woodwinds burbled over the stream, bird violins woke into song, and the sun rose majestically in the brass. As soon as this Daybreak movement began, it was clear this was the piece the Philharmonia had been waiting for. Earlier, their playing had been two de-grees under. Now they did much more than play the notes: they cradled them, polished them, especially Kenneth Smith's solo flute. But enough French chocolates. please. I am now on a diet.

GEOFF BROWN

Factory fun

🛪 athedrals in Sound is what the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra calls its Bruckner series in Greyfriars Kirk. Actually, it's more like visiting a factory where Bruckner symphonies are manufactured, where slabs of brass are winched on rumbling cables and welded together, great beams of wood hammered into position, masses of wires woven into crackling high-voltage circuits. It's noisy but also, in the

middle of it all, exhilarating. Greyfriars is not the biggest of Edinburgh's churches. With the orchestra occupying roughly half the floor space and leaving room for fewer than 400 people it is clearly no answer to the problems of the RSNO, but for a broadcasting orchestra it has interesting possibilities. Although Bruckner is obviously pushing at the extremes of an acoustic

tone, vibrato and solid technique. Chang carried all before her. It was an impressive performance and a continually engaging one, thanks to the empathetic interaction of soloist, orchestra and conductor.

As though to prove that touring had tak-

en no toll, the players delivered a highvoltage and superbly executed account of Beethoven's Seventh Symphony. The symphony was famously described, by Wagner, as "the apotheosis of the dance", but the driving rhythms and fierce propulsion of this performance emphasised raw energy rather than choreographic grace. There was suavity too in the Allegretto. and a welcome touch of buoyancy in the Scherzo. But with Davis sculpting vast edifices in the air as the accumulated power of the finale was exhilaratingly released. there was no mistaking the air of trium-

BARRY MILLINGTON

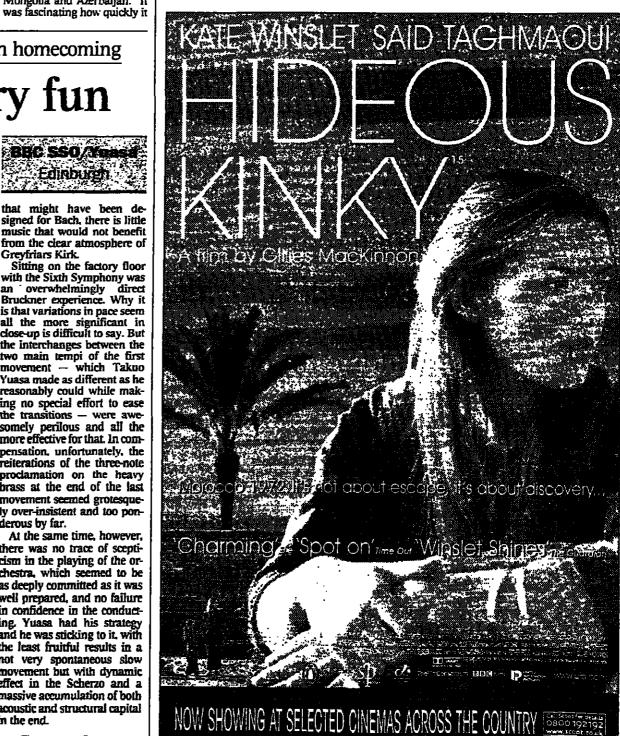


signed for Bach, there is little music that would not benefit from the clear atmosphere of Grevfriars Kirk.

an overwhelmingly direct Bruckner experience. Why it is that variations in pace seem all the more significant in close-up is difficult to say. But the interchanges between the two main tempi of the first movement - which Takuo Yuasa made as different as he reasonably could while making no special effort to ease the transitions - were awesomely perilous and all the more effective for that. In compensation, unfortunately, the reiterations of the three-note proclamation on the heavy brass at the end of the last movement seemed grotesquely over-insistent and too ponderous by far.

At the same time, however, there was no trace of scepticism in the playing of the orchestra, which seemed to be as deeply committed as it was well prepared, and no failure in confidence in the conducting. Yuasa had his strategy and he was sticking to it, with the least fruitful results in a not very spontaneous slow movement but with dynamic effect in the Scherzo and a massive accumulation of both acoustic and structural capital

GERALD LARNER



Return of the natives



ed large-scale Elgar, as heard in magnificent performances in London before Christmas. Elgar may be relatively unfamiliar territory Stateside, but by all accounts rapturous audiences had less diffiorchestra was joined by Sarah Chang, the youthful prodigy now all of 17. Chang lost no time in making her mark, with a full-blooded, folk-inflected opening para-graph. Thereafter outbursts of furious vesculty with it than the New York critics. Back home, the orchestra and Davis. locity alternated with oases of calm reflecturned to smaller-scale Elgar on Wednestion, the soloist equally responsive to day night, with the Serenade for Strings. It was delivered in unsentimental fashion, both. The sharp wit, vibrant colour and riotous abandon of the finale make for a volsimple and strong and all the better for it. atile mix, but drawing on reserves of rich For Bartók's Violin Concerto No 2 the



COPENHAGEN Sel in wartime Den-

mark where Neisenberg mystenous calls on Niels Bohr, Michael Frayn's mteligent play transfers to the West End, Michael Blakemore directs. Duchess (0171-494-5075), Previews

ROOTS: A day-long event at the Festival Hall lomorrow offers a blend of music from the European classical tradition and other cultures. The day

the London inflammonic under Nami Nagario is joined by the Hilliard En-semble and the Central African Vocal Group in a programme of drumming and song from the African Equalorial Rainforest followed by works by Centent Streamber and Markets

Copland, Streensing and Machaul. (See preview, p. 35) On Sunday (3pm), the prants Daruel Barenborn

ival Hall (0171-960 4242) 🖏

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Beethoven's Conolan Overture and his Fourth Plano Concerto are coupled to Steed Engraphy Symptons in the

to Elgar's Enigria Variations in this concert conducted by Sir Colin Davis.

Emanuel Ax is the piano soloist. Barbican (0171-638 6891). Sunday,

cast includes Maureen Liprren in transter of Trevor Numi's Rodgers and Hammerstein. Lyceum (0171-416 6099).

RICHARD III: Robert Lindsay puts

☐ BRIEF CANDLE: Dens Quiley plays various European celebrities who lell for the charms of young Mane Basthirtself (Cela White) in the

Mane Bashkirtseff (Ceta White) #1 uno 1880s and figured in her posthumously published dianes. Stella Qualey directs.

☐ YOU'LL HAVE HAD YOUR HOLE: Invine Welsh play, obsessed with anal rape, drugs and forture, nauseated most entires and many others at its (seeds promiere.

Astoria (0171-434 0403)

☐ IT'S JACKIE, Welcome return of Jackie Clune and her kitsch homage to the songs of Dusty, Cita, Sandle

and Dionne. Drill Hall (0171-637 8270).

NEW RELEASES

HIDEOUS KINKY (15) Kale Winslet

plays a name young mother who stakes her two young daughters on the hippie read to Morocco in the early 1970s. Support and to the file.

Fundor that is suppraintly unual percental and moving whith Said Taghmadu.

Bella Piza and Came Multin

LIVING OUT LOUD (15) Fithd remance

with Holly Hunter and Darray Devilo as

an odd chupte aho meet in the elevator

sies reep them apail. Cracking perfor

HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE

Angela Basser Talk for a huniy Jamar

can toy boy (Taye Diggs), trail has age Despite the chemistry thore is nothing to this overlong holiday brochure from director Kevin Richney Sullnan.

A BUG'S LIFE (U) A colony of cure

Director Richard LaGravenese

published dianes. Stella Quilley New End (()171-794 0022). [6]

RECOMMENDED THIS WEEKEND Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London

■ House tuli, returns only 🖸 Some seats available 🗆 Seats at all prices

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: Sakan Oramo gets to gross with the apic Autlenic Symphony in this concert by the City of Birming-

ham Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, Sibeles's early work is preceded by Brahms's Song of Deshry, a setting of a poem by Hölderlin. Symphony Half (0121-212 3333). Tomorrow. 7pm. Eg

CAMBRIDGE: Four emotionally deprived women in St Louis feature in A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coour; a very late Terrisessee Williams play with a role for a deal actress. Touring production by Graeae Theatre Co. Drama Centre (012233 22748).

Tourist and Iomogram, Boon.

GLASGOW. Scottish Opera's spring

GLASGOW, Scottlish Opens's sping season opens with a new production by David McVicar of Richard Stresss's seductive tale Oer Rosentarelor, With Joan Rodgers, Stella Doufeos and Lisa Milne heading the cast, Richard Armstrong conducts. Theatre Royal (0141-332 9000).

Opens Iomorrow, B.30pm, ©

bedroom face by Spanish dramat Sergi Belbet, Hans-Peter Kellner directs for Mammoth productions. Lyric Studio (0181-741 8701).

IN THE STREET OF CROCODILES: Welcome return for Theatre de Complicite's Inventive staging of Bruno Schulz's magical recollector of pre-Nazi Poland. Queens (0171-494 5041).

☐ VASSA. Shelia Hancock heads a territic cast, playing the family marriarch in Gorley's strong drama. Howard Davies directs a new version to the Almeiote excesse.

N THE TEMPEST: David Calder excellent in Adrian Noble's colourful RSC production from Shatford. Berblean (0171-638 8891). Ŋ

PECKER (15): John Waters s trothy

bue but there are enough bed-tasks

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15):

as the Bard victorials John Madden (breds

Thilling romanic comedy with a cracking script by Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard. Gwyneth Palitow exc as the Bard in ross wheelang muse.

VERY BAD THINGS (18): Peter Berg's

macabre Cornedy timiler satisfies buddy movies and smug suburban treatyles by chopping up half the cast. Demonic performances from Christian Slater and Cameron Diaz.

HILARY AND JACKIE (15): Anand

the tale Jacqueline du Pré. With

BULWORTH (18), Warren Beatty's

for the Almeida season. Albery (0171-369 1730).

ARTS

POP OPINION

The trouble with Evans

More popular than Chris?

John Lennon probably doesn't know it, but he and Chris Evans have quite a lot in common. Not

course, one must be careful about saying these kinds of things — there are mentally unstable people out there who are capable of acting on a journalist's flippant whimsy. But then, we're in a no-lose situation here, so: Chris Evans must be silenced. There doesn't need to be any

immediate reason to call for

his departure from the na-

OXFORD: Eleanor Bron and Peter Harly star in Maiding Nolse Quietly, Robert Holman's trilogy of short plays, each to do with strange encounters overstadowed by war. Deborah Bruce directs a touring production for Chiord Stage Compeny. Playhouse Theatre (01885 798800). tion's consciousness — it's something that can be prayed for daily, along with bread and forgiveness of trespasses - but obviously, there are peaks and troughs in any cycle of annoyance, and things have peaked with Evans's bullish appropriation of John Lennon in those appalling one 2 one mobile phone adver-

tisements. It's surprising the ad still had the power to wound: our souls had already been coarsened by an earlier series, in which Kate Moss pretended she'd most like a one 2 one with Elvis Presley. That ad was an Olympic-

CAITLIN level study in ennui MORAN - Moss's disengage-

ment was so intense that one wondered whether she knew who Elvis was at all. I can't think of two people more illsuited to meeting and chatting. Had Elvis really met Kate Moss, he would have mistaken her for a Twiglet, dunked her head-first into a tub of peanut butter and tiramisu, and eaten her.

So it's no mean achievement for Evans to make an ad even more ulcer-forming. And yet. by metaphorically climbing. uninvited into Lennon's coffin shouting "All right, mate!", he proves that he fundamentally misjudges his "hero". Lennon is cool because he was exactly the kind of person who would because Lennon is dead and defenceless. Evans is able to pop up in bed with John and Yoko and wander around Pepperland.

Alas, the ads don't show Evans hanging with Lennon during the one, short-lived era the two might actually have bonded. When John Lennon embarked on his infamously dumb-monkey Lost Weekend. he spent his time getting stupidly drunk with other celebrities and, at his "crazy" peak. spent an entire evening in a nighteluh with a sanitary towel stuck to his forehead. I can

ing infamously during that particular epoch.

If one genuinely thought Evans's biggest hero was John Lennon, then sure, those ads would still grate more gratingly than watching a great big grate being grated, but it wouldn't make you want to hit Evans on the head with a poisoned rake. But just look at him. Everything about him. from his Obvious Wealth sports car to his skintight jeans to his sub-Timmy Mailet wackiness, suggests that here is a man for whom the 1980s were a cultural high-point. I should imagine that if you could, rather pleasurably, herd Evans into Room [0] and strap the rats on, he'd admit that the music that can make

> dence and Tomorrow Never Knows, but rather Van Halen. Nik Kershaw and the early works of Cutting Crew. His teenage pin-up was Kim Wilde, and he seemed suspiciously happy to buy the MOR radio station Virgin FM. when for a fraction

him weep like a

baby isn't Dear Pru-

of the price he could have bought the struggling indie/alternative station XFM and helped Britain create a bright-

comes as un-normal and iconic as John Lennon. the facets of him that people relate to reveal everything you need to know about them. So which is the facet of Lennon a man who half-heartedly toyed with revolution before retiring to bake bread - that Evans relates to?

"If I could have a une-to-one with John Lennon. I'd ask him how he felt at being thought of as arrogant, when inside he was as sensitive as the rest of us." Ah-ha! Evans sees Lennon as misunderstood. Evans one of the most famous men in Britain, with his own weekly TV show about Chris Evans, a daily radio show about Chris Evans and indeed an entire radio station devoted to promoting the Chris Evans Way - thinks that one of the most famous men of the 20th century, who has been analysed in the minutest detail, is misunderstood. Just like

So, since Evans has just spent the last month speaking for Lennon and presumed



Chris Evans shows he also likes to have the occasional one-to-one with a fag and a game of billiards, or something

if he could rise from the dead for one day, would be: "That Chris Evans is a great guy! And I just dig Mercury's new one 2 one system!"). I feel it's only fair that I take my turn working as a conduit for the BeatleChrist. It goes like this: Chris Evans, the last time I had a one-to-one with John Lennon, he said: "Just because we dislike you doesn't mean we don't understand you. Chris. It's never been a question of not understanding you. you charmless, over-exposed philistine. It's because we get you entirely, right down to the last act of your waxy, pea-sized heart, that we loathe you."

Roots in full flower

HE HAS certainly bided his time, has Olu Dara. In a career spanning 35 years he has played trumpet in Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers and sessioned on more than 40 albums for artists as diverse as Brian Eno and Cassandra Wilson without ever becoming the main attrac-

Now Dara. 57, is making up for lost time. His belated solo debut. In The World: From Natchez to New York, joins up the dots of the African-American experience, from Delta blues and New Orleans jazz through to Caribbean rhythms and ancestral roots.

The melting pot of styles reflects Dara's own travels. Born in Mississippi he moved to Harlem, but not before he had spent five years the American Navy. which took him to both Africa and the Caribbean, where

LIVE GIG Olu Dara lazitale

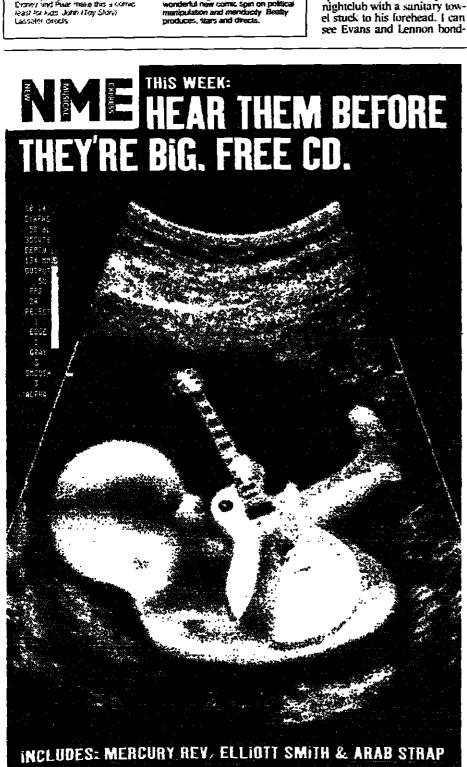
he eagerly soaked up the music of both cultures.

On his first ever British date with his four piece Natchezsippi Dance Band, he displayed the unhurried grace and poise that only come with long experience. On the languorous Harlem Country Girl his voice recalled the slow burn of Terry Callier. Then he shifted gear into a passionate slice of vintage R&B that sounded like a cross between John Lee Hooker and Johnny "Guitar" Watson. On Your Lips saw him moving seamlessly from a rolling Trinidadian soca rhythm to a pumping beat that had its roots in the

Nigerian juju of King Sunny Ade. Then he was off again on a new tune that sounded like the New Orleans funk of the Meters plonked down in the middle of a bustling Afri-

can marketplace. Extemporising his vocals in the style of Van Morrison. he also switched effortlessly between guitar and trumpet. At one point he strolled casually through the crowd, still blowing his horn, before finishing with Zora, a gospeltinged tribute to the black American writer Zora Neale Hurston. It is hard to think of anyone, even Taj Mahal. who occupies quite such a broad canvas of black musical styles. Olu Dara has been a long time coming. But it appears to have been more than worth the wait.

> NIGEL WILLIAMSON



EAT OUT FOR £5 ur new Eat Out for 55 Restaurant Guide, with Diners Club International, lists more than 820 restaurants where you and up to five friends can enjoy a special Times menu for just 55 each. A list of the restaurants is on www.the-times.co.uk and www.4-d.co.uk AMENDMENTS: LOHDON Battersea Barge Nane Elms Lane, SW8; Lunch - M, T, W, Th, F; Dinner - M, T, W, Th, F; 2 courses; Third £2; Free glass of wine - M, T, W, Th. Lunch; 9171-498 0004 SIRRET Teta L'Auberge. Tilburstow Hill Road, Godstone; Lunch - M., T., W., Th., F., S., Sun; Dinner -T, W. Tn, F. Sun; 2 courses, 01342 892318; **SCOTLAND Scalini Italian Restauran**t 10 Melville Place, Edinburgh; Lunch - M. T. W. Th. F. S; Dinner M. T. W. Th; 2 courses: Third \$2; 0131-220 2999. THE TIMES EAT OUT FOR £5 VOUCHER This voucher, with two differently aumbered tokens from The Times and/or The Sunday Times attached, entitles the bearer and up to five other people to eat out for £5 each at any one of the restaurants taking part in this offer. You must pre-book with the restaurant, confirming the number of courses you get for £5. Offer subject to availability and ends on March 7, 1999 Vooler United Salarity Tausen Pictor Salarity Soot seek her the long. The long to the long. THE SECTIMES കാവർട്ടയങ്ങനെത്തി?



Like it or not, they're comin' atcha

Forget Queen of the Nile. At the rate they're going, Cleopatra are set to rule the world. Paul Sexton reports

knock on the hotel room door. Cleopatra's lead singer and songwriter is getting restless for her creature comforts, and somebody is going to know about it. "Please tell me that's my ice cream," she says. politely. As a display of pampered showbusiness temperament, this is hardly a scene from All

The first year of fame for Higgins, 16, and her two sisters Zainam, 18, and Yonah, 14. might have been enough to turn even wise old heads, never mind those of the three ingenue talents in an archetypal rags to riches tale. But in the week that they add their own children's television series to their inventory of achievements, they are showing an almost stateswomanlike calm about their upward mobility. Oh, and also talking about boys and giggling a lot. The girls have found a space

in their multi-media promotional schedule to be startlingly normal, well-adjusted, vivacious teenagers. They are more likely to twitter about who they fancy and what tunes they love than to harp on about their three consecutive Top Five hits, their Best British Newcomer nomination at the forthcoming Brits, opening for the Spice Girls on the latter's British stadium tour or getting faxes from Madonna.

But the perfect demonstration of how a bankable commodity can be put in front of comes this very afternoon. With channel-hopping dexterity, the trio will leap straight from episode one of ITV's Comin' Atcha, their sevenpart comedy-drama vehicle, to an appearance on BBC1's Blue Peter to plug their upcoming single, A Touch of Love. It's their first ballad, but these precocious minstrels still come

across as funky enough to make even Shep get down. Myriad further bookings are due, on everything from Channel 4's Bigger Breakfast to the Disney Channel. Nor must we forget their own website. Comin' atcha indeed.

The Showbiz Family Higgins was delivered in Birming-. ham, but it was after their mother Christine, herself a session singer, decamped with the girls to Manchester's notorious Moss Side that their potential became unmissable. "Istarted writing poems when I was about four or five," says Cleo. "Some of them were so good that Mum didn't think they were mine."

• I've got only one friend, who I've known for seven or eight years. Instead, I have associates ?

What began as sing-songs with mum in the kitchen soon became a local attraction at youth clubs and parties. When Cleopatra became an apparently overnight success this time last year with Cleopdtra's Theme they had in truth been polishing up their act for six years. But even these three

served of the girls. "But then when they found out I was in Cleopatra, I was on report straight away." Cleo adds: "You get people saying they're your cousin, or if you babysat for someone

once they say you were their

personal babysitter."

"I never used to get deten-

tion," says Yonah, the most re-

change you, it can work some voodoo on the people around you. "We live across the road from a load of fans," Cleo says, "and this morning I went to the local Spar to buy some chicken for my Mum. In the shop they were shouting It's that girl from Cleopatra.' And there I am just walking down

> comes over as the voice of prudence. As Cleo chirrups confidentily about still knowing who her friends are, Zainam cuts her short with impressive pragmatism. "You will know vho your friends are, when or if Cleopatra disappear," she says. "I've only got one friend; who I've known for seven or eight years. Instead. I have associates. These so-called associates don't want to talk to me. or they only want to talk to me because of what we're doing. Associates that I haven't seen since school, all of a sudden

> the street trying to be as nor-mai as possible."

As the eldest sister, Zainam

n America, Cleopatra are signed to Madonna's Maverick label, and they talk about her like a favourite, hip auntie. "She sends us faxes to say the single's doing well or whatever," says Zainam. Written personally? "Well. I think it's her. We don't actually know her hand-writing."

they're phoning the house."

Domestically, the support staff is headed by their omnipresent mother, their managers and tutor, the doubtless goes the studying, then? Three hours a day, same as usual," says Cleo world-wearily, and then asks me for a little help with her homework: "Do you know what pi stands for?" They attend a minimum of 15 hours of lessons per week and even Zainam is voluntarily continuing her studies. Far from being distracted by for-

the stars, Mann has fashioned

an album that is destined to

join similarly hollow offerings

by Transvision Vamp, Sham-poo and Stiltskin in the bar-

IT IS hard to think of who

themselves less in middle-age

than TV Smith, previously the

gain bins of the 1990s.

CDMRED 151 £10.49)

TV SMITH

Generation Y

(Cherry Red



It's a great life being part of Cleopatra, even if you have to pose with a large cardboard cut-out of a television set

tune, she says that her pop life has had a grounding effect. "I bucked my ideas up when I came into the business," she

But isn't it tricky trying to re-member the difference between a circumference and radius when the lesson is sandwiched between a Smash Hits interview and a photo shoot? someone to jog your memory," says Cleo. "We do mess about, though. When Barry says something about 'yesterday'. we start singing 'all my troubles seemed so far away . . . But I think he quite likes it, because he gets to travel the

There is a fourth Higgins sister, ten-year-old Terri who, in

the best Jacksons and Osmonds tradition, is being groomed to join the group. We'll be like the Jackson 5, but without Randy," says Zain-

> Only too aware how that troupe has generated enough horror stories to rival the Addams Family, she goes on: "We don't know the truth, do we? lem family. Michael to me is ings on their new merchan-

all about music, and if he had no face I'd still love him." It is hard to imagine any se rious emotional derailing in the rather more prosaic world of the Higginses. Ice cream discarded, the talk switches tack and forth between schoolgirichatter (There were lots of cute guys in Japan, the only

thing is they don't have

and the state of their finances. We've got the money invested," Zainam says, as if I need-ed confirmation that it hadn't all gone on trainers or anything more sinister. "I've taken out Peps now." ● Comin' Atcha begins on CTTV at

dise company, Cleopatra Ltd,

4.45 this afternoon. A Touch of Love is released by WEA on Feb

Terrific Italian job

INSTABILE ORCHESTRA Italian Instabile Festival (Leo CD LR 262/263).

THE 19-piece Instabile Orche tra is one of the glories of European jazz. A genuine democra-cy, yet holding in its ranks some of Italy's most celebrated musicians, it is routinely referred to as a free-jazz ensemble, but incorporates into its richly textured music everything from graceful folk melodies and snatches of opera to witty references to the blues and banda traditions.

This double CD captures the orchestra live in the Teatro Verdi, Pisa, and as an introduction to the band's range and virtuosity it could not be bettered. Woosily eccentric, rowdy ensembles jostle with small group free jazz and the odd solo feature: the most elegant of charinet airs are succeeded by irreverent trombone pieces or live electronic duets. Given

NEW JAZZ ALBUMS

that the French were granted a day at last year's London Jazz. Festival, and that the Swedes are presently here in force, Italian jazz, arguably the most vibrant in Europe at present, surely deserves a UK airing.

VINTAGE JAZZ Trust Me, I'm A Builder (PEK Sound PKCD-110) WITH the modest amount of media attention jazz attracts so firmly focused on youthful prodigies, cutting edge avant-gardists and the odd mature legend, it is easy to forget that there is thriving market for the sort of traditional, New Orleans style music Vintage Jazz plays. Recorded live at last year's Bude Festival, clarinet tist Harry Brampton — a high sweet, agile player with a deliciously woody sound in the lower registers — and the suitably sassy brass pairing of cornettist Dave Stradwick and trombonist John Shelley lead

CHRIS PARKER

a vigorous sextet through a

lovely selection of rueful blues,

stomps and the odd piece of

Arise, Charles the second

Extremely Cool (Slow River/Rykodisc SRRCD 41 E12-99) EXTREMELY cool is a bit of

an understatement as far as Chuck E. Weiss's career is conremed. His profile has been so ar underground that were it. not for the dark lines under his. eyes and the gruff, well-trav-elled tone of his voice, you might think that he had been cryogenically frozen since he released his first album 18 years ago. Still, no one could accuse the

man who inspired Rickie Lee Jones's hit of 1979, Chuck E.'s in Love, of going off at half-cock, and this much-delayed follow-up is a cracker. Aided and abetted by his

long-staggering friend Tom Waits, Weiss has whipped up a rich and ragged brew of barrelhouse blues, boho-jazz and Chuck Berry-style rockmiroll on numbers ranging from the nimble swing of Sonny Could Lick All Them Cats to the slow, midnight-in-the-alley

Comble of Deeply Sorry.

Best of all is It Rains On Me, a salty singalong written and performed by Weiss and Waits with a heroically dilapidated swagger. This is how the world will be/Everywhere I go it rains on me", they wail as a lone kick-drum struggles to keep the song on its feet. and a down-at-heel blues takes on a magical twist.

BABYLON ZOO King Kong Groover (EMI 7243 4 97280 £12.99)

"ALL the money's gone", sings . Jas Mann with a knowing smirk on the Babylon Zoo single of the same name, released it week. To his evident embarrassment, most people have missed the intended iro-

> CDs reviewed in The Times can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498

ny, and simply assumed that

POP ALBUMS: What do you get if you wait 18 years for a Chuck E. Weiss

LP? A treat, says David Sinclair

he is telling the truth. For while Babylon Zoo's celebrated single, Spaceman, may have sold in dizzying quantities three years ago, the band-wagon quickly faltered, and that initial success was not translated into subsequen sales of Babylon Zoo's debut al-burn. The Boy With the X-Ray

Now Mann is back for another bite of the cherry. But if the market was resistant to his group's first album, which was actually rather good, it will take a miracle to get King Kong Groover off the ground. A collection of hand-me-down glam-rock themes given a slight Robbie Williams-meets-Oasis twist and sung in a foolish David Bowie-type drawl, this is an album bereft of inspi-

ration, originality or wit. "A starman fell from outer space", he sings in Manhattan Martian, a portentous ballad with an unbelievably threadbare lyric airing a theme which recurs with diminishing returns in Honeymoon in Space and Chrome Invader ("Cosmic kid with the latest moves/He's a crazy

dude"). Elevating a workaday cover version of Mott the Hoople's Honaloochie Boogie to third track on the album gives an accurate indication of the paucity of worthwhile material to

spokesman by default for a shell-shocked generation that seems unsure of how it got here, unaware of what it wants and unable to comprehend where it is going next. Musically, the strident. follow. Instead of reaching for

high-speed certainties of youth have given way to a gentler folk-rock approach, which finds Smith playing most of the instruments himself and singing in a marvellous worldweary croak redolent, at times, of Richard Butler of the Psychedelic Furs. "Awake little Britain", he

sings defiantly in Strong Horse. Perhaps it is too late for Smith to change the world, but in its own quixotic way this is an album that makes a differ-

former members of the Sex Pistols and the Damned et al

have degenerated into carica-tures. Smith has quietly grown in authority while remaining true to his misfit ori-The title track of Generacluding Rodney Jerkins. Narada Michael Walden, tion Y finds him "Standing here with hands on hips/In a ditch by the super-highway", a perennial outsider and now Shawn Stockman of Boyz II Men, Will Smith, Fred Jerkins III and Kelly Price, to name

Top of the Pope, 88C1, Friday, 7.30cm

TOP TEN ALBUMS Seorge Michael (Epic

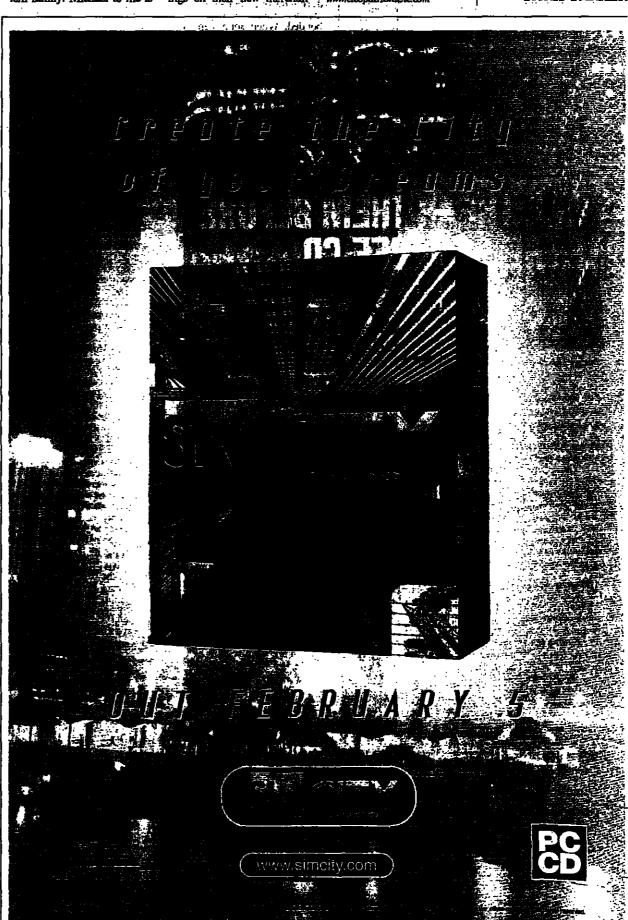
• Figure in brackets indicates last week's position

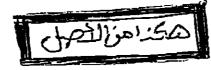
from among the first wave of British punks has disgraced singer with the Adverts. While TATYANA ALI Kiss the Sky (MJJ/Epic 49165), E12.99) ONE of those modern R&B alburns that have been created by committee, Kiss the Sky owes its existence to a small army of fashionable American songwriters and producers in-

> nent contributors. Together they provide the pretty, 19-year-old Tatyana Ali better known until recently as the actress who played Ashley in the American TV sitcom The Fresh Prince Of Bel-Air with a succession of curiously mundane love songs, includ-ing her recent hit Daydreamin and current single Boy You Knock Me Out.

but a few of the more promi-

Although a competent sing-er capable of summoning a chilly intensity on the incongruously powerful He Loves Me, Ali lacks the distinctive vocal signature of a Whitney or a Mariah, and fails to breathe life into more typically banal lyrics such as "I want to fly so high that I kiss the sky", or "I'm sitting here lonely, just a-







Jeff Randall, the Editor of Sunday Business, is due in court today to discover whether he is guilty of contempt in relation to an article on masons in the City

Up against the odds

Sunday Business, will find out today whether he is guilty of contempt. A row has broken out over an article in this week's paper

In an earlier interview. Randall joked that he was "ankledeep" in letters of complaint from masons and that he was probably on "a masonic hit list". Yesterday he was called to Kingston Crown Court to explain why the paper had referred to an ongoing fraud case, involving one of its "outed" musons. Randali has been told to return to court today to hear the verdict of Judge Mac-

It may not be the most significant story the paper has car-ried in its 12 months on the streets, but publishing a list of senior masonic members in the Square Mile has certainly put Sunday Business in the sportight. That story featured in a burst of radio advertising last weekend, marking the

Jeff Randall is sailing close to the wind as Editor of Sunday Business. Raymond Snoddy finds out why Sunderland Newspaper group start of a promotional cam-

to be working. Sixty-three thousand, eight hundred and sixty-two copies." says Randall with the relish of a man enjoying success after many had felt that finding space for a standalone Sunday business newspaper at the top end of a crowded market was an impossible task. "That's the first time (last Sunday) we have been over 60.000," He believes "breakeven" sales of 80,000 are coming into sight.
This Sunday, the paper

owned by the Barclay brothers should get another modest boost to circulation when it enters the Scottish market for the first time. The launch there will coincide with the first issue of the Sunday Herald, the new Glasgow-based paper from the Scottish Media

interview

Group. "We are hoping to give our sister paper. Scotland on Sunday, a little bit of help by confusing the issue. says Randall, former City_editor and sports editor of The Sunday Times. Rather cheekily, they

plan to ride on the advertising for Scotland's new Sunday. For some time. Randall has been looking longingly at the possibility of perhaps 5.000 sales in the Edinburgh financial community but thought it couldn't be done. The paper is printed on the Portsmouth

> the first week's printing bill. Randall took comfort from the fact that the owners had a long-term view and would not start worrying about cashflow al-

ter six weeks. "They saw it as a three-year project," he says, "It is likely to cost the Barclays a total investment of £20 million to take the paper into profit. with losses of £6 million in the first year. £4 million in the second. Q million in the third."

and Sunday Business left that

to Glaseow and Edinburgh to

truck newspapers. But on real-

ising that lorries were bring-

ing the Barclay brothers' dai-

ly. The Scotsman, south to Lon-

don, it was agreed that the ve-

hides could meet halfway to ex-

A further jump in sales to co-

incide with the anniversary of

the paper's launch - on Sun-

day week - would certainly

The Barclay brothers -- mul-

timillionaires David and Fred-

erick - bought the Sunday

Business title from the receiv-

I didn't

want to

bottle out

of taking

the job

as editor?

make Randall happy.

ers after it had be-

come something of

a inke. It was so un-

der-capitalised at

the original launch

almost three years

ago that money

had to be hunted

down just to pay

change papers.

The Editor's main worry at launch was that the Financial Times would move against him with a Sunday edition of its own: "Can you imagine what the FT could have done with its brand, its distribution, its network, its authority, its track record." It didn't happen. Indeed. Randall has heard that Marjorie Scarding, Pearson chief evecutive, apparently concerned at Sunday Business equanting in its domain, has asked consultants to take a look at the paper. Randall was also wary about the "robust and competitive spirit" of his former employer. News Inter-

Times. The worst that his rivals got up to, he says, was spreading a rumour with advertisers that sales had fallen to 17.000. In fact, they bottomed out at 35,000. After three months of bumping ed to rise and the paper's ABC circulation figure for Novem-

ber was just over 50,000. It is clear that Sunday Busigle to make budgets balance in ness enjoys growing accepta third year of cuts. Tony Hall. the unpopular chief executive ance in its core business and fiof BBC News and candidate nancial market. "I feel obliged for director-general, has turned to J Walter Thompson to read it. I think it's done quite well," says Anthony Fry, a merchant hanker with Credit Suto advise on ways of promotisse First Boston. "The Indeing its brand better. News 24 pendent on Sunday is a waste (share of viewing 0.05 per cent) of time and The Mail on Sunis certain to be overhauled. day has lost it. I put Sunday Business alongside The Observer but behind both The Sunday

Times and The Sunday Telegraph." Randall must attract more people like Frv. those not usually in the office on Sunday who may instead be at their country home. Advertising will help. In future, all ads will be story-led and as far away as possible from the disastrous launch campaign which billed Sunday as

id

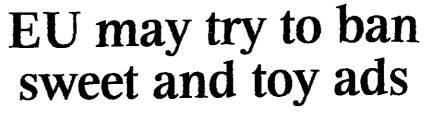
ery's

methods over a

ing. Mulholland landed his

the "first day of the working week" making potential readers miserable by threatening them with work when they were trying to enjoy themselves. He believes that supermarkets have played a vital role in increasing sales. There has been a noticeable "bounce" in sales on the last Sunday of the month. a phenomenon he attributes to the middle classes going to supermarkets after pay day to buy groceries — and a copy of

Sunday Business. This year Randall will target airlines, hotels, restaurant chains and golf clubs. He plans to take the paper to France. The Netherlands and Germany. From worrying that he would make a complete hash of being a newspaper editor, he is starting to daydream that, just may be, a cir-culation of 100,000 might one day be possible. And dreaming of the profits such a circula-



MAKERS of sweets and toys are alarmed at a BBC Worldwide: Rock Sound and Freeway, threat by the European Union to ban television ads for under-12s, and the Advertising Association is launching a campaign to fight it. Campaign reports that a ban is already in place in Sweden, and that the Swedes are ex-pected to try to extend it across Europe when they take up the EU Presidency in 2001. It would hit the revenues of television channels, especially at Christmas.

BLOODLETTING at Disney Channel UK, as two executives leave after less than a year. Joan Lofts, the director of programming and acquisitions, and Amelia Johnson, the head of

creative, both handed in their notices last week. Broadcast says reports of rows over strategy are denied by the managng director, Paul Robinson, formerly of Talk Radio.

TANGO fruit drinks are to be relaunched because of a 10 per cent drop in sales, says Mar-

keting Week. The manufacturer, Britvic, will spend £13.8 million on marketing, including a £9 million advertising blitz, and a new flavour mixing pineapple and grapefruit. Tango is still the bestselling fizzy fruit drink, with double the market share of its closest rival, Lilt.

CHANNEL 4, having snatched Test cricket coverage from the BBC, now has its eyes on the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester. The BBC has broadcast the Games since 1954, and Broadcast says that Channel 4's expression of interest could start a bidding war. with a price of up to £12 million.

NEW magazine projects reported by **Press** Gazette include: New Eden, a gardening magazine for "funky people", from 1PC: FBX (For Boys eXclusively), for 7 to 11-year-olds, from

As programme editors strug-

covering rock music and custom bikes, both from Freeway, which already publishes both titles in Europe.

CHANGING FACES - who's going where: Pat Roberts Cairns steps down as the Editor of Good Housekeeping but remains a consultant: Tom Collins quits as the Editor of Irish News to be communications director at Queen's University, Belfast (Press Gazette) Liz Harlow leaves WH Smith to manage Jigsaw, the new marketing consortium for Cadbury-Schweppes. Unilever and Kimberley-Clark: Capital Radio's managing director,

Martina King, is talking to ITV sales house TSMS about a job; Christopher Masters, the marketing chief at Mondex, joins Visa International as European head of strategy (Marketing). Ruth Pitt, Granada's head of documentaries, is to be the Editor of BBC1's Everyman series and director

of productions at Real Life Productions; Andrew Bell leaves BBC radio news to be political editor for 5 News on Channel 5 (Broadeast). Donna Zurcher of National Media Corporation is to head the UK office of Ogilvy PR Worldwide: John Russell, of the American Chamber of Commerce in Brussels, will head Shandwick's EU public affairs (PR Week).

MOVING HOUSE — who gets the business: Mars appoints Duckworth Finn Grubb Waters to advise on the launch of a top-secret chil-dren's food range (Marketing). Jones Mason Barton & Antenen wins £15 million account for cable company Telewest; Swiss engineer ABB is reviewing £10 million account held by McCann-Erickson (Marketing Week).

MICHAEL LEAPMAN

how Margaret Thatcher was

forced to admit, on a Radio 4

phone-in, that the General Bel-

grano was sailing away from

the Falklands when she was sunk? I bet Blair prefers the bosom of the lobby any day.

THIS month should settle

the question of who will be

third string Newsnight present-

er, with Jeremy Paxman and

is out of the running, leaving

David Aaronovitch, Jeremy

Bowen and Martha Kearney

in the brains parade. The hot

money is on Bowen, although

Kearney may emulate Sue

MacGregor's career switch to

Feltz never ends. She is rightly

fingered as helping to trigger the crisis engulfing BBC Pebb-

🗷 THE bad press for Vanessa 🏲

ble Mill in Bir-

mingham.

ments are being

wrecked. The

Birmingham

centre has long

been a harbour

for day-time pro-

gramming, but

as a condition of

current affairs.

■ HE was judged "too posh" Justin in the BBC's great debate about who should front its main bulletins to maximise augets the diences and promptly consulted his lawyer. Now I hear that Justin Webb, the former Breakfast TV presenter packed off to Radio 4's The World Tonight. upper is to be rehabilitated. He's about to be posted to Brussels. as the BBC's Europe correhand cation is not being held against him for such a post.

and has been pondering suing the group. Now triumphant Mirror Group chairman, Sir Victor Blank, is being asked to smooth things over in the time-honoured way.

■ THE Daily Mail has worked itself into a lather over the Downing Street plan to by-

NO nonsense is a dish best eaten cold" where iournalists are concerned. Day-Montgombizarre management

£15 million project to relaunch The Sporting Life were de-tailed by The Observer last Sunday in a score-settling piece by John Mulholland, its joint deputy editor. The subtext: when Monty sacked Mulholland last summer from The that he looked uneasy dealing Sporting Life editorship, the with unpredictable questions row erupted across the press from the public, and was and no pay off was forthcom-

pass Fleet Street by promoting Tony Blair through the regional press, 24-hour news and daytime TV. But anyone insisted her new show come who watched Blair on ITV's This Morning with Richard and Judy would have noticed

fulled into making that much-criticised laddish remark that Hoddle should go. Remember



from London, where she lives. Combined with the loss of other programmes, the result is that the two main studios at Pebble Mill are being used at 20 per cent and 40 per cent of capacity, which points to dosure. "It's proof that the market just doesn't work. We ju-can't abandon production in the English regions," says a senior BBC executive. A working party, under chief executive Will Wyatt is trying to sort it out.

I SPENT an illuminating day at a City seminar on the future of radio, with Ralph Bernard, David Mansfield, Richard Huntingford, Tim Schoonmaker and Richard Findlay, chief executives of the UK's five main commercial groups (GWR, Capital Radio, Chrysalis Radio, Emap Radio and Scottish Radio Holdings).

They are all furning at the way the Radio Authority, currently issuing three to four new station licences a month. has failed to award a single new licence to any one P them. They're gunning for \$... Peter Gibbings, the former Guardian executive who now



Tony Blair's flirtation with daytime TV nearly ended in tears

Granada bids for schools' channel

I mnada Television has emerged as clear fa-Troot to language as clear latract to launch a revolutionary interactive digital television channel linked to the six "core"

The channel, due to start in the autumn, is being developed by the Department for Education and Employment together with the Department for Culture. Media and Sport, and will be the most ambitious educational project to use the digital television technology. The aim is to have a channel dedicated to educational material on English, French, Geography, History. Double Science and Mathy

Granada, which already has a learning division as well as being one of the biggest commercial broadcasters is in compension with United News & Media and the BBC in tendering for the contract. Lord Hollick, chief executive of United, which has

three ITV licences as well as publishing The Express, has been gradually moving into education. A subsidiary of United Broadcasting, Anglia Interactive, has been producing curriculum-based material for some time, first for CD-Roms but now mainly for the Internet. United is also in a consortium with the Welsh Fourth Channel and the cable company NTL to. launch digital terrestrial entertainment services.

The extent to which the BBC is interested in the project in its current form is not clear. The corporation is already planning to launch a general Learning Channel in the spring on digital terrestrial television.

Granada is believed to have put considerable work into its application. It is a 50 per cent shareholder in ONdigital, the main commercial digital terrestrial broadcaster, and would clearly see the contract as a way to promote digital "blackbox" receivers. The aim would be to have a digital receiver in every school.

But the prize would be to persuade parents to buy digital receivers for their homes.

Most of the material for the channels is likely to be

specially produced. Over time, databases of material on the six subjects would be built up — including, per-haps, presentations by the best specialist teachers. Previous initiatives in using television in distance learning have had mixed results. The Open Universi-

ty has had a significant television component from the outset/but the Open College retreated from telel. sion becapse it was too expensive. Digital has been a significant factor in reducing costs.

According to the latest Education Department fig-

ures collated nine months ago, 85 per cent of second ary schools in England are connected to the Internet but only 17 per cent of primary schools.

RAYMOND SNODDY



By raising funds for Save the Rhino International (SRI), you will be helping to provide funds for the translocation of black rhino to a protected area in Tsavo East, Kenya: reconstruction of anti-peaching camps destroyed by floods in India; and equipment for anti-posening units in Namihia **HOW TO ENTER** Simply write your unswer to the following question on the



get life

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hand

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A scoop that all reporters should take care to note

In the story of Glenn Hoddle's downfall, accurate reporting by a Times journalist proved crucial



Matt Dickinson, the Times sports journalist who broke the Glenn Hoddle story



Glenn Hoddle speaking at the news conference at which it was announced that his contract as England coach had been terminated

Englind football manager Monday, Mar Dickinson was sum-moned to meetPeter Stothard, Editor of

That mornin Tony Blair had raised the stakes by dering his opinion that Hoddle ought togo, but with the crucial proviso that his emarks on the disabled had been accurtely reported. Hoddle meanwhile was still insisting he had

Stothard neede to satisfy himself that The Times had no misrepresented Hoddle and that his lefence of Dickinson was sound. Severa reputations were at stake. So as Dickinon sat with his notebook in a taxi to Vapping he knew he faced a High Noonmerview that would ruin either his caree or Hoddle's. It was one of several moments of panic he experienced since his literview was published in The Times ast Saturday.

Dickinson was goilg through the rare experience for a journalist — shared most recently by TheGuardian reporters who dared to chillenge Jonathan Aitken's "sword of trub" — of being the author of a story that juddenly erupted into a national contriversy on which everybody had a view, thich threatened the career of a powerfulnational figure-

head and which called to question his motives, veracity and professional skill. The irony of it all was hat the Hoddle interview was arranged through the

Football Association itself after a call from the acting chief executive David Davies to sports editor David Chappell. The FA had detected a note of hostility in The Times's assessment of Hoddle and was on a charm offensive before next week's match against France. When the England manager rings you

at home, you stand to attention. So when Hoddle got through to Dickinson on his third attempt last Thursday, Dickinson didn't have time to set up his tape-recorder. He grabbed his notebook and en and started asking questi minally about English football.

When he turned to the subject which was unwittingly to lead to Hoddle's downfall, there was no doubt in his mind that Hoddle's comments were on the record: Dickinson prefaced his questions by saying that Hoddle was on record in another newspaper as holding his beliefs in reincarnation. The England manager proceeded to amplify them. He could easily have refused.

A report of Hoddle's comments was made the second lead on Saturday's front page, with the interview on the front page of the Sport section. Once the first edition was published, its news val-ue was instantly evident to other editors. The story also made the front pages of Saturday's Daily Telegraph and The Guardian, an inside page of the Daily Mail and became the splash in The Sun,

The Mirror and The Express. After that it took off on its own. On

Sunday The Observer, obviously advised by Downing Street, led on a report that "Cabinet ministers" thought "Hoddle must go" and the story also featured on The Sunday Telegraph and The Inde-pendent front pages. It dominated the news agenda until Wednesday morning. It wasn't long on Saturday before Dickinson knew that his job was on the line, especially after Hoddle went on the BBC's Football Focus to defend himself. Dickinson found his professional reputation

called into question. His family rang to tell him that he'd all but been called a liar. There were 50 messages on his answerphone. That was one low moment.

Another was when Hoddle announced that he would be issuing a writ. It was not until Tuesday that his moment of vindication arrived when Hoddle himself, in an interview with Harry Harris of The Mirror, admitted that he had not been misquoted

The reporter from The Times did not misquote me but he did misinterpret me." Hoddle said. "The point I wanted to make was that there has to be some reason why some people are poor and starv-

and others are rich and well-. why some people have the terri-. There has to be some reason for it all. The idea that we have all lived before and that those who were wicked or evil in past lives are not blessed with happy lives is not mine. It is one of many theories and one that is held widely by some religions. Believe me, reincarnation was not something invented by

Glenn Hoddle. I am not sure about it but some of it makes more sense than

life as the luck of the draw." Given the controversy over Dickinson's report, this was a critical text in which Hoddle had a second stab at explaining his views. The first edition headline in The Times on Saturday was "Hoddle says disabled are paying wages of

sin". Allowing for the compression required of headlines, "wages of sin" was undoubtedly emotive (and amended to 'price of sins" in later editions) but defensible given what Hoddle said in his Mirror defence. Both The Guardian and The Daily Telegraph used the word sins in their Saturday headlines.

Some critics believe that it was Dickinson and The Times who brought about Hoddle's downfall. Surely the fault lies with Hoddle himself? As the veteran columnist Ian Wooldridge wrote in the Daily Mail, Hoddle wasn't sacked for sharing his metaphysical beliefs but for being dumb enough to reveal them to BBC radio and a "thoroughly reliable" reporter. "Anyone with a grain of intelligence would know they were terminally offensive to the sick, handicapped and underprivileged."

Sensing a fellow journalist's reputation at stake, many of Dickinson's rivals sent messages of support but Dickinson says, nevertheless, that he takes no pleasure from Hoddle's downfall, even though he did not consider him a good coach. "I certainly don't feel smug or exhilarated. It wasn't fun to get somebody

He also had several moments of "utter paranoia" as he found himself in the role of hunted instead of hunter and caught in the blinding light of 50 flashbulbs. His 15 minutes of fame brought one moment of black comedy when a woman on the Tube recognised him from TV and began berating him about reincarnation. Dickinson's main regret with hindsight is that he did not have time to find and use his tape-recorder. At least, unlike many reporters, he had Teeline shorthand, learned to 100wpm at the postgrad-

uate journalism course at Cardiff. The moral for young journalists is that the old-fashioned skills of good reporters — one of which is shorthand — still count, as Ian Hargreaves, the former editor of The Independent and New Statesman, who is now professor of journalism at Cardiff, testifies. Shorthand isn't obsolete, he says. It remains indispensable. It certainly saved Dickinson's career when

he met the Editor on Monday.

THE PAPERS' HYPOCRISY

he reaction of The Sun to the Hoddle saga was instant. Hoddle should be sacked immediately, it said. "Every day he stays on is an insult to every disabled person in the nation."

The Mirror was not so sure. Hoddle's remarks were described on its front page as a "slur" but its chief football reporter Harry Harris managed to get to Hoddle himself on Friday night and reported his view that he'd been "stitched up" -- "Someone owes me an apology for misinterpreting my beliefs." By Monday, however, The Mirror was certain: Hoddle should go. The fact that he has not resigned confirms his insensitivity and shows an arrogance unbecoming the coach of our national football team." The England manager needed stature, sensitivity and intelligence.

"Glenn Hoddle fails on all counts." By Tuesday, when it had an exclusive interview with Hoddle by Harris (in which he confirmed the accuracy of Matt Dickinson's report). The Mirror had changed its mind. Honest Hod was now worth one last chance. "Yesterday The Mirror, like most papers, called for him to resign because we believed he meant the interpreta tion put on his words by The Times. Today



Hoddle speaks to The Mirror

we have listened to his fuller explanation and we have altered our view." That view altered yet again on Wednesday. What he had said about reincarnation was clearly offensive to disabled people and the Football Association had acted decisively.

The Daily Telegraph argued consistently that although Hoddle's views might be those of a crank, he should be judged as a football coach. But it could not resist a dig at The Times which it said had tried to "board the tabloid bandwagon".

The Daily Telegraph reported the Hoddle saga on its front page on Saturday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. It had leading articles on Hoddle, op-ed articles and pages about him in the sports section.

A case, perhaps, of the pot and the kettle. Eileen Drewery, the faith healer who inspired Hoddle's beliefs, said after his downfall that it was the press who had destroyed

him.

David Lacey argued in The Guardian: The most damning quote of the reincarnartion business has not been Hoddle's garbled rhetoric but Drewery's earlier assertion that you have to accept that a lot of people come back to earth to suffer'. To some this might suggest that she has influenced him in a manner unhealthy to his position as an England coach."

Pressure? England have it easy, really



lenn Hoddle, during this week's tribulations, may have felt as a former England manager, Bobby Robson, did in Mexico City in the summer of 1985. The scene was a press conference in the England team's hotel. Having snarled at a photographer who, he thought, was showing him at an unflattering angle, Robson said: "Pressure? There isn't any pressure. You people provide the pressure. If you people didn't exist. my life would be twice as easy and

wice as pleasurable." That Hoddle should be undone by a newspaper interview when he had expressed much the same sentiments about karma and the disabled on BBC radio last May, with no reaction, seems primarily the stuff of ... karma. For Hoddle's relations with the

press have never been good, from the moment he took over as England coach. Not that they had been idvilic when he was managing Chelsea. Even then, with far less pressure, there was a certain sullenness about him, a tendency to respond peevishly to questions.

With England, he made it plain that he didn't, in his own words, "give two monkeys" what was said and written about him. Well, nor did the most successful England manager of all time, Alf Ramsey. yet his basic contempt for the press never quite deteriorated into the antagonism Hoddle has engendered. Football journalists felt that they

were given scant co-operation dur-

ing the 1998 World Cup - though they had still less from Bobby Rob-

England managers may have trouble with the press but it goes with the territory, says Brian Glanville

son in 1990, in Italy. Nor did Hod-dle endear himself to journalists by being economical with the truth about injured players who suddenly and miraculously recovered.

But nothing did quite as much to undermine Hoddle's press relations as his links with Eileen Drewery, who may perhaps be seen as the true cause of his present predicament. It was surely Mrs Drewery's muddled ideas that he was expounding in that notorious interview. It was Mrs Drewery, the pub landlady cum spiritual healer. whose fatuous pronouncements had alienated journalists, some of Hoddle's players and many spiritual healers. Mrs Drewery claimed to have had a "one to one with God" and to have prevented lan Wright from scoring against Italy in a 1997 World Cup eliminator to

prevent violence after the match. It was surely under her influence that Hoddle made some of the most ludicrous pronouncements in his ghastly World Cup Diary whose serial rights he sold for £250,000 to the very paper he had most excoriated. The Sun. The same Mrs Drewery whom he astoundingly compared to Jesus Christ — just a "run of the mill" chap who could perform miracles. Bobby Robson, too, produced a lamentable World Cup diary after

the 1986 Finals, admitting that he had told "a white lie". That was in Los Angeles when, in a warm-up friendly against Mexico. Bryan Robson dislocated his shoulder yet again and Bobby pretended he hadn't. Then Bobby insisted on using him in England's first two World Cup games, in the second of which Bryan dislocated yet again and played no further part.

In 1990 both Robsons were bitterly opposed to the press. This was because each had been accused in the tabloids, though not by football journalists, of sexual escapades.

Ted Croker, when secretary

of the Football Association, had christened tabloid reporters pursuing scandal as "The Rotters", and so they were known by the soccer press. It made no difference to the Robsons who promoted a climate of hostility among the players. It climaxed just before England met Belgium in Bologna when Paul Gascoigne threw a cup of water at full-back Paul Parker. who was talking to a journalist.

Ironically, a naive Bobby Rob-son gave the run of the training "camp" to the novelist Pete Davies who was writing a book about the World Cup - only to be appalled by Davies's eventual indiscretions. Ramsey's disdain for the press

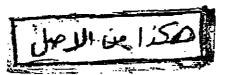
him when he was dismissed in 1974. The coup d'état, engineered by the late Professor Sir Harold Thompson, a notorious intriguer and future FA President, was harsh, although Ramsey, winner of the 1966 World Cup, had seemed a spent force. Ramsey's greatest antipathy was for foreign journalists, who returned it after his outburst in 1966 at Wembley, following a quarter-final against Argentina. In the semi-final, he said, he hoped that England would meet a team which wanted to play football "and not act as animals".

didn't prevent it rallying round

Few realised that the Argentine players had urinated in the dressing-room corridor and had tried to break into England's team room. On England's 1969 pre-World Cup tour, Ramsey, having said how important it was to establish good public relations, chased Mexican journalists down the dressing room tunnel in Guadalajara.

Looking back it seems astonishing that Walter Winterbottom. England's first manager, should have been so gently treated in his reign between 1946 and 1962. A reign which included the 1-0 defeat against America in the 1950 World Cup in Brazil, and the two thrashings by Hungary, 6-3 at Wembley in 1953, 7-1 in Budapest in 1954.

The truth is that by comparison with Italy, Spain and the South American countries, England coaches even now have a relatively easy ride. And none has yet shown his posterior to the press as did





Sky must reinvent itself

when Sky Television was born it was difficult to take seriously the claim at the launch ceremony by Rupert Murdoch, chairman of The News Corporation, that a revolution was under way and that TV would never be the same again. It was indeed impressive that four new channels - doubling the number then available came on air at exactly opm that day as scheduled. The programmes, however, looked as if they had been thrown together at the last minute.

Most people focused, perfectly reasonably, on the fact that it was almost impossible to get a satellite dish and hence there were hardly any viewers to watch the launch of "the revolution". Before long, British Satellite Broadcasting would be arriving with its Squarial, better pictures and more sophisticated technology and then the competition would be formidable. Nobody then really knew how eager British be to pay for multi-channel television since the four existing channels tered for so many tastes. As we watch-

ed the new service that evening my son, then seven, understood the concept straight away: "Does this mean. Dad, that we will be able to watch sport all the time? That ultimately is the point about multi-channel television, whether through cable. satellite or digital terrestrial the capacity to devote entire channels to different pro-

gramme genres for enthusiasts who are willing to pay. Despite the rows and controversies over pricing and allegations of overweening aimed at Sky, there is no doubt it was Sky that kept cable alive in the early days when there was no other source of decent prothat without Premier League seeable future, a substitute for

football, the subject of an ongoing cartel case before the Restrictive Practices Court, multi-channel TV - now watchedin almost seven million homes in the UK and Ireland would have made little impact.

Today Sky, a sister company of The Times through News International, is no longer the rogue outsider but an established part of UK television. continuing to nibble away at the viewing shares of the main broadcasters. Yet even as the champagne glasses are lifted in honour of the tenth anniversary, it's obvious there are limits to the extent of the Sky revolution. The Sky channels are gramming. It is equally clear not, and will not be in the fore-

stream British broadcaster. Such investment is not a luxchannels availaury because Sky will inevitable to all. Sky

One, for exam-

ple, the most

popular of the Sky channels.

has a 1.5 per

audience compared with 29.5

per cent for BBC1, according to

figures from the Independent

In the past, with the excep-

tion of news and sport. Sky has largely been a vehicle for im-

ported programmes, mainly

American. That is changing:

Sky One has set a target of 50

per cent original program-

ming within the next two

years. Sky has also formed its

own production company. Sky

Pictures, which will invest £80

million to produce 20 theatri-

cal-release films. For Sky to

have greater impact in future.

it will have to increase consid-

erably its investment in origi-

nai British production so it re-

ally does look more like a main-

Television Commission.

bly face increasing competition. The Restrictive Practices Court could rule that the exclusive television rights deal with the Premier League is illegal, setting off a mad scramble for the rights to whatever games can be scooped up. Either way, packages of games are certain to be offered to different broadcasters when the contract runs out in 2001.

The balance of power is increasingly shifting towards the cable companies, thanks to the telephone services they also offer. The cable industry is now running some programme services of its own such, as Front Row, the pay-per-view movie service. More will follow. Sky will have to be every bit as imaginative and as revolutionary in its second decade. Its continued success will depend much on how fast it can drive its digital services and. in particular, its new interacrive home shopping channel.

London is 'TV news capital of the world'

Britain has trumped the American networks, says Stewart Purvis, chief executive of ITN

ondon has replaced New York as the capital of the world's television news business, a shift of power that has taken less than ten years. American comedies and popular drama may be flooding into Britain but British television news is reversing the flow of funds across the Atlantic.

At the start of the Nineties, the square mile near Central Park which housed all the network headquarters was the place that mat-tered in television news. British executives looked to New York to take the lead on how a big international story was to be covered on the ground and on the screen.

Today there is almost an "Anywhere But New York City" syndrome, even for Americans. NBC has put its affiliate service, News Channel, in Charlotte, North Carolina, and its main news desks are now in New Jersey.

The fading power of the networks and their home city dates from the Gulf War. The networks did not have a good war. They spent a lot of money but were outmanoeuvred by CNN, the upstart from Atlanta. CNN built its reputation by having correspondents in front of live satellite links, but left much of the frontline picture-gathering to other broadcasters, particularly ITN, with which it had strong relationships.

New York newsrooms had always looked down on their European counterparts. They seemed to think that if New York wasn't covering a story, then the story did not matter. CNN, however, which suffered from none of the corporate excesses of Manhattan, needed to build bridges and do coverage deals.

In a realignment of alliances after the Gulf War. British and American news organisations made judgments about old partners and began a whirtwind of divorces and second marriages. ABC broke with ITN and went with the BBC, which spurned its traditional partner NBC. NBC, in turn, began to work mostly with ITN, which also built its links with CNN. CBS, which until then had worked on the basis that as the world's leading television news organisation it didn't need to be in an alliance with anybody, finally joined up with Sky News, which also found a sister network in Fox News.

For the first time commercial judgments were made in what had previously been an old pals "swap shop" of news video. Partners tried to put a value on each other's content

and services, money started changing lands and mostly it started coming this way icross the Atlantic. British news gatherers wee doing more news-gathering around theworld than the Americans. ITN pulled its corrage out of a mainly American-owned ageny and began selling the rights directly to other

Since then, developments have ben hastened by takeovers and mergers of Anerican networks which have made the bottom line ever more important. Awkward questions have been asked about the costs of retwork news, and non-newsmen have sonetimes been put in charge to find the answes. By comparison, the upheavals inBritish

television news seem both minorand to have had real benefits. News-gahering. whether by BBC, ITN or Sky, hs been strengthened. New technology hs been used to reduce labour costs, releasin: money for investment in news coverage. Oce British television would go to America o study cost-effective working practices, nowhe Brit-ish are seen as the pioneers. Londorseems a more sensible place to do international news business. So if you are the Amerian news agency Associated Press Televisionand you have just taken over one of your main competitors. WTN, there is no doubt where you put your international headquartes.

he American unions can ake their share of the credit. At the ad of last year, ABC had to cope wit a major strike at its New York offices. Aiew years earlier, it was NBC. Gone are the ays when the head of one US network wouldtell a British broadcaster he was reluctantto go into an alliance with it because it recognised unions. Now the networks marvel it the British model of recognition with lite conflict.

From this base the British are elling news reports and developing internaional news channels. New York, by comparion, is interested only in domestic channel. So if you are in the city of New York and rant to catch up on cable with news beyond tie borders of America, you have only two chices - ITN World News for Public Televison on Channel 13 and BBC World News o. Channel 21. Both programmes are made inLondon with working practices that the neworks would die for - and sent by satelliteo New York.

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Erott

Marine H

'Erotic television has gone too far'

The creator of Eurotrash claims C5's sex-based programming is irresponsible, says Chris Ayres

trash. The quiet, bespeciacled American. is the brains behind Channel 4's Eurotrash, a programme almost entirely devoted to sexual innuendo and toilet humour, and a string of similarly tacky shows, such as Baadass IV and The Girlie Show.

Without Stuart, it is unlikely that Michael Grade, the former head of Channel 4. would ever have earned the title of "Britain's Pornographer-

in-Chief". Yet Stuart, who is about to launch another risque Channel 4 series, called Le believes that 'erotic programming" terrestrial television has gone too far. Indeed. he openly criticises David Elstein. head of Channel 5, who was attacked last week by the Broadcast-

Pioneer: Peter Stuart

Commission over his station's all its money from Eurotrash. sex-based programming.
"What I see on Channel 5 is soft-core porn at its very worst and sex journalism at its most irresponsible," he says. "However. I think Eurotrash did usher in a new era of eroticism on British television, and help to open a lot of doors that should have been opened."

He is aware, however, that many may find his criticism of Channel 5 rather hypocritical. given the sexually charged conient of Eurotrash. "But Eurotrash is first and foremost a comedy show," he says. "No sex items make it in unless there is a human element. We wouldn't do a piece about a porn movie, for example, but we would do a piece about the

first porn musical." This formula has been astonishingly successful. The last series of Eurotrash, which ended two weeks ago, attracted 3.1 mil-

eter Stuart is televi-sion's original king of beating both Chris Evans's TFI beating both Chris Evans's TFI Friday and the cult American sitcom Frasier. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that Channel 4 has just commissioned 17 new shows of Eurotrash, to end on New Year's Eve 1999. Meanwhile, Stuart's production company, Rapido TV (partly owned by Richard Branson's Virgin Communications), has seen sales almost double this financial year to £9 million. "In this age, where sex televi-

> matic wallpaper late-night schedules, Eurotrash is gening its highest ever ratings." Stuart says. "It is rais-ing its sordid little head above all those other programmes. That's proof to me that it is a well written, subversive and witty little show." Stuart, 38, is

sion is the the-

keen to emphasise that Rapido TV does not earn

The company was founded ten years ago in Paris by Stuart, the son of the American documentary maker Mel Stuart, and by Antoine de Caunes, the dapper French comedian who presents Eurotrash. Rapido's first productions were arts documentaries for Channel 4's Without Walls series. Only later did Rapido produce the series of tacky, sex-obsessed shows that formed the backbone of Channel 4's late-night schedule in the mid-1990s.

Yet Rapido TV's output is still diverse. It is currently producing a programme for disabled people, called Freak Out. and a new series starring the cult comedian Dennis Pennis. The company also produces educational programmes. Its most recent success was the Bafta-award-winning Channel Hopping (aimed at teaching 14 to 19-year-olds to speak



French), starring the comedian Eddie Izzard. The pro-. gramme is now part of the na-

Stuart, a self-confessed Francophile, admits to being on a mission to improve the image of the French with the British. "One of the most subversive things Eurotrash did - forgetting all the sex and scatology

tional curriculum.

- was to show British people that French people had a sense of humour," he says.

Like many Americans. Stuart has a mixed attitude towards the British. He is writing a film, to star de Caunes, about his experience with British bureaucracy: it will be called Mad Dogs and Frenchmen. "The story comes from

when I had a dog in Paris and couldn't bring it over to Britain because of immigration laws," he says. "So I took it to northern California, where it died. I was so angry at the stupid, stubborn, arrogant, Victorian, uptight British attitude. It is

life vendetta against Brit-

ain. That inspired me to write

the film, in which Antoine will

play a dog smuggler."The film will be funded by the French media company Pathé. Le Show, which will also be

shown on Friday nights on Channel 4 in April, is essentially a variation on the Eurotrash theme. Yet there are differences: while Eurotrash is a tongue-in-cheek series of mini-

documentaries, Le Show is

ville, hosted by de Caunes. As Stuart says: "I want it to be a big brassy Eurotainment The pilot is rather hit and

part chat show, part comedy

sketch show and part vaude-

miss, but there are some funny moments, such as a spoof version of The Jerry Springer Show ("My husband is an existentialist. And I always thought he was a classical empiricist"). It will also feature celebrity interviews, although it is not clear who would be stupid enough to sign up. As Stuart says: "We are not interested in what the celebrity has to say. I think celebrines are just as bored with celebrity interviews as the public is."

Getting it right for nurses

AS WITH other recent advertising "briefs from hell", there appeared to be little that advertising could do for nursing recruitment in the face of daily negative PR. Unlike the case of the Millenni-

um Dome, however, the announce-ment of double digit percentage pay increases for new recruits gave the Department of Health the hook upon which to hang an ad campaign.

However, between the decision being taken to make the pay award and the commercial going on air after News at Ten on Monday, there was an almighty kick-bollock-scramble at Saatchi & Saarchi, the nursing ad agency.

The ad features Rachel, a patient recovering from a serious accident and unable to talk. All she does is stare blankly into the camera - for an uncomfortably long time. The spell is broken only by a flicker of recognition at the voice of the nurse who has been caring for her. Text on the screen reminds us that "nurses make a difference".

Viewers are then encouraged to dial a hotline number to find out about either returning to nursing, or training to become a nurse. Only then is there a discreet reminder that pay has improved.

If you look closely you can tell how lit-

tle time the agency had. Agencies often spend six months coming up with a creative treatment of a talking head address-ing a locked-off camera, but not here.

The script had to be simple. There was no budget for big effects or sexy locations - but then we are talking about attracting young nurses to the NHS. What's more, it all had to be done in a week.

What is hidden well is the behind-thescenes debate as to how much to make of those rises in the ad itself. Simply to claim that nursing had changed because of the award would have been too patronising. even for this Government. Nevertheless. the agency couldn't ignore the rises, it



mise running a campaign at all.

The resulting campaign is an attempt to strike a balance between the emotional reasons why people have historically chosen nursing as a career, and the Government's new pay message. It amounts to an extraordinarily difficult task carried out with tact and emotional appeal.

■ There has been much talk about the role of the Nationwide Building Society's marketing director. Michael Lazenby, in Glenn Hoddle's downfall.

Would Hoddle have gone without the intervention of the likes of Tony Blair and Tony Banks. Who can now say? What is clear is that once the Football Association's new sponsor. Nationwide, started speaking out. Hoddle was doomed. The FA, fresh from Green Flag



ending its arrangement, could not afford another disaster.

Lazenby himself will have learnt a little about the dangers of being quoted this week. The trade magazine Marketing interviewed him about the Hoddle affair and asked him to explain his current apparent preference for sponsorship over tele-

vision advertising. "When people are watching television they see adverts, but they are not really watching them." he said. Now, while not quite in the Hoddle league of gaffes, it wasn't too clever for the marketing director of a company that has spent between £8 million and £15 mil-

lion a year for the best part of a decade.
It will make fascinating reading for the agencies pitching for the Nationwide advertising account, after the recent acrimonious split with its former agency Leagas Delaney. Inevitably, Lazenby was quoted in Campaign the next day, trying to squirm his way out of his own words. The irony was not lost on many.

■ The Superbowl imploded this year with the help of a sex scandal and a onesided game. But, as usual, the real battle took place in the endless ad breaks during Superbowl-related programming.
In an event that has become a byword

for excess. Anheuser-Busch excelled itself. The Budweiser brewer paid an astonishing \$20 million for ten 30-second slots during the game, keeping out its rival Miller, an official sponsor of the NFL.

Miller had to make do with slots in the the two-hour pre-game show and the twohour post-match analysis. But who got the rougher deal? Miller can console itself with the thought that Anheuser-Busch paid a premium of 54 per cent over last year for the same positions. Joe Sixpack will have to buy an awful lot of beer to make it worthwhile.

Stefano Hatfield is the Editor of Campaign

UPTO 50% OFF WOREDWEDE

The Times has teamed up with Page & Moy, the leading telephone travel agent, to provide readers with unbeatable discounts of up to 60% off the brockere prices of a fabulous selection of bolidays, flights, tours, cruises and short breaks to a wide range of exciting destinations. Details of the tour operators offering savings of up to 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 50% and 60% appeared with full terms and conditions in The Times on Monday and last week's Sunday Times. Further details will appear in a 16-page supplement in The Sunday Times on Sunday.

	Total basic brochure			
save on the total basic price of your holiday.	price of boliday	Up to 20%	Up to 15%	Lip to 10
There are fixed discounts for each price band.	£200 to £499	£40	530	520
Add together the total basic price for all your	£500 to £999	£100	£68	250
passengers - this is the brochure price after any	£1,000 to £1.499	£165	£113	575
special reduction given by the operator, excluding	£1.500 to £1,999	£231	£158	€105
surcharges, supplements, insurance, car hire,	52.000 to 52,999	£400	£200	£145
amendment and cancellation charges and special	£3,000 to £3,999	£500	2325	£300
excursions - then refer to the appropriate discount	£4,000 to £4,999	0002	€400	€350
level for your chosen tour operator and check the	£5,000 to £5,999	£1,000	£750	€500
table. This table only applies to holidays or travel	£6,000 to £6,999	21,100	£825 ·	£550
where the discounts are up to 10%, 15% and 20%.	£7,000 and above	£1,200	5900	2600

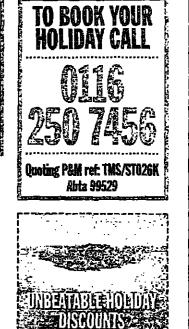
HOW TO BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY You can lake advantage of this travel offer at any tune until Wednesday, March 24. 1999. Choose your holiday from the proclames of any of the tour operators lested in The Times on Idooday or The Sunday Times last presk, ghen cast the Pane & Many hollme, nght, to make your bookung. As holidays must depart before Gooder 31, 1990, unless specified paterwise. You will be required to pay a deposit and sisterance program see holiday maurance). Your discount will be declured from your linal involce. The balance of the payment for your holicay is the 10 weeks before departure. For bookungs made under 10 weeks of departure, payment at fell, less the discount, is required at the time of booking You can use a Switch or Visa Delta debut card, or a ManuerCard or Visa credit card to pay for your holdery. Credit-card payments incur a 1,69% exchange. To quality for the appropriate discount you must collect loss

nily tembered tokens hom The Times this week and one from

The Sunday Times, together with the booking validation form which will

March 31, 1999. If Page & May does not receive your takens, you will be sent a revised invace for the full price at the holiday. The odistanting amount will then become payable. Tickets and traval documents with recurrently be supplied 7 to 10 days before departure. This offer is only open to readents of the LIK, Channel Islands and Isle PRICE-MATCH GUARANTEE II, within five days of booking, you can show the identical holiday/cruise was available all a lower price elsewhere we guarantee to return the difference.

HOLDAY INSURANCE You must have adequate based navance. Page 8 bloy offers a high quality policy with Gupa Travel Services, Compril lates by a 16-noise holiday are \$39.95 per person in Europe, and 972.95 southwide. Premiums can change without notice. If you have your own policy, a must be in place when you custimn the bookers. We will boild a deposal equivalent to our breakance premium This will be retunded subject to a completed insurance confirmation form



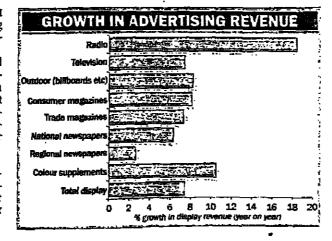
dustry saw its total advertising revenue increase to more than \$420 million in 1998, according to figures just released by the Radio Advertising Bureau

ENIOR SUB-EDITO This represents an annual growth of 18.0 per cent, or £60 million, as well as being the biggest revenue figure achieved by the industry. This growth is set against a 7.4 per cent year-onyear growth in the display advertising market for January-September 1998; full annual figures are not yet available. Commercial radio is look-

THE UK commercial radio in- ing to achieve a 5.4 per cent share of display advertising for 1998 and is on target, according to the RAB.

The growth in commercial radio revenue has been attributed to increasing interest from national advertisers who spent 27.3 per cent more on the medium last year than in 1997. National revenue accounted for 61.4 per cent of annual income.

■ MediaTel's online media information and analysis service is accessed via the Internet at http://www.mediatel.co.uk (0)71-439 7575)



Landlord's discount after liquidator's disclaimer

In re Park Air Services pic Before Lord Sivnn of Hauley, Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Hope of Craighead. Lord Hobbouse of Woodhorough and Lord Millett

|Speeches February 4| When a solvent company which was a tenant of property under an onerous lease went into voluntary liquidation and the liquidator dis-claimed the lease: the landlord, in proving for his loss in the liquida tion, had to submit to an approprito reflect the present value of the rents and other payments which would have accrued in the future

The House of Lords so held in allowing an appeal by the liquida-tors of Park Air Services plc, Vivian Murray Bairstow and Nigel Ruddock, against a decision of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Potter and Lord Justice Mummery) (The Times May 14, 1997; [1997] I WLR 1376) by which it allowed an appeal by the landlord. Christopher Morun Holdings Ltd. from Mr Justice Ferris (11990) 1 WLR 649) on the landlord's originating application seeking a determination of the debt the landlord was entitled to prove

Section 178/6) provides: "Any person sustaining loss or damage in consequence of the operation of a disclaimer under this section is deemed a creditor of the company to the extent of the loss or damage and accordingly may prove for the loss or damage in the winding up."

Mr Terence Etherion, QC and Mr Peter R Griffiths for the landlord: Mr Jonathan Sumption, QC and Mr Richard Adkins, QC, for

LORD MILLETT said that since the disclaimer operated to bring to an end both the tenant's liability to pay rent and the landlord's right to receive it, the landlord could not prove for future

it had gone. Since that was the consequence of an act which was authorised by section 178 of the Insolvency Act claim damages at common law for his loss. Instead section 178(6) gave him a manutory right to compensa-

That was normally measured by reference to the difference between the rents and other payments which the landlord would have received in future but for the disclaimer and the rents and other sums which the disclaimer would enable him to receive by reletting.

But the subject matter of the landlord's proof was compensation for loss of his right, inter alia, to future rent, not the rent itself, to which he no longer had any claim.

The amount of that loss had to he assessed. That involved giving credit for the receipts which the disclaimer would enable him to obtain by reletting. Thus even the undiscounted amount of the landlord's proof did not represent the aggregate amount of the rents and other sums which he would actual-

tion of the disclaimer. There was no justification for employing a different approach in than would be employed if the claimant were claiming damages for breach of a contract which had been wrongfully terminated.

In assessing damages in such a have to be made for accelerated receipt of any sums which had not fallen due at the date of breach, and which the contract did not make immediately due and payable in the event of breach. An award of compensation which failed to take that into account would overcompensate the claim-

The Court of Appeal rejected the liquidators' argument that the question should be approached simply as a claim for damages for breach of an ordinary commercial contract in which the claimant was seeking compensation for the loss of future income: although that was what the language of section

Instead, the Court of Appeal reparded the landlord as a secured creditor, his security taking the form of a right to re-enter and recover possession for non-payment of rent and to distrain for unpaid

That enabled the Court of Anpeal to treat the landlord as a secured creditor who had voluntarily surrendered his security and was proving for the whole debt as if it

that a landlord was not a secured creditor within the meaning of secdefined "secured creditor" as a creditor of the company who held a security over the property of the company. A secured creditor who did not realise or voluntarily surrender his security had to put a value on his security and prove only

None of those provisions was capable of applying to the landlord's right of re-entry. That was not a security interest subsisting in the tenant's property, nor was it capable of being realised by the landlord. It did not secure the performance of the tenant's liability to pay rent. which remained unsatisfied as well after re-entry as before.

for the balance as an unsecured

It could not be valued or surren dered. If the lease was disclaimed it was not voluntarily surrendered by the landford but brought to an end by the liquidator without his

Once it was disclaimed, the right to re-enter was gone together with the right to future rents payment which it was supposed have secured. It was a very curious secu-rity which was liable to evaporate when it was needed.

Having thus circumnavigated section 178(6), the Court of Appeal applied rule II.13(3) of the Insolvenwas concerned with the proof of debts payable at a future time, to the landlord's proof of debt. Rule II.13 was a curious proviwhen interest during the windingup was for the first time made payaon debts proved in the windingup. Its effect seemed to be that there was no discount for accelerated receipt of a future debt in a sol-

vent winding-up. Mr Justice Ferris was plainly right to hold that that rule had no ication to a proof submitted by landlord pursuant to section 178(6). Such a proof was not a proof for a debt of which payment was not due at the date when the company went into liquidation.

At that date the landlord was not a creditor in respect of any loss or damage arising in consequence of the disclaimer, for the lease had not then been disclaimed. That was why section 178/01 only deemed him to be a creditor. Nor did he aherwards prove for a debt of which payment was not due at the date of the declaration of a divi-

He proved for the statutory compensation to which he was entitled by virtue of the section. That was not a right to a future payment. The claim remained to be quantified; but subject thereto it was a present right to immediate pay-

The landlord's argument atrached great importance to the alleged anomaly of applying a dis-count to its claim in respect of future rents and not to the proofs of other creditors in respect of future debts. Both, the landlord submitted, suffered the loss of a future

The Court of Appeal evidently considered that the landlord could but for the disclaimer, have proved for the future rent and recovered it without discount. But in practice he could not have proved for the fuwait until the rent fell due and then

prove quarter by quarter. That was because rent was not a simple debt. It was the consideration for the right to remain in possession. The tenant's liability pay future rent depended upon future events.

Rent in respect of a future rental period might never become paya-ble at all. Rent payable in future un-der a subsisting lease could not be treated as a series of future debts making up a pure income stream. There was a critical distinction between contracts which had been

fully performed by the creditor and contracts which remained executo ry on his part. The creditor who had lent money which had not been repaid or supplied goods or services which had not been paid for sued or proved in respect of a debt. If the debt was not yet due at the date or which a dividend was declared, the

dividend was subject to adjust-ment under rule 11.13. The creditor who had contracted for payment for goods or services still to be supplied by him, howev-er, was not and might never become entitled to payment. He could not sue or prove in respect of

His Lordship drew attention to

the respects in which the drafting of rule 11.13 appeared to be serious-

For more than a hundred years provision had been made for fu-ture debts to be discounted at the rate of 5 per cent per annum in order to arrive at their present value.

The process of discounting involved applying the discount to the reducing amount of the debt. thus arriving at a sum which, invested at compound interest, would equal the nominal value of the debt at the

Rule 11.13(2), however, applied the discounting formula to the full, that is, unreducing, amount of the admitted proof. Such a process would reduce the proof to zero after 20 years, and at no stage yielded an amount which, invested at 5 per cent compound interest would equal the nominal value of the debt

at the date fixed for payment. The second respect in which the drafting appeared defective was in relation to the amount and priority of the discount to be added back where the company was solvent. Obviously the first priority was

to satisfy the principal amount of the debts, including the discounted value of any future debt. Once those had been satisfied in full, one would expect the amount of the discount from the date of the liquidation to the date of final distribution to be paid pari passu with the interest payable during the winding up to other creditors.

Instead, however, the creditor whose proof had been discounted recovered the full amount of the discount, not to the date of final distribution, but to the date, possibly still far into the future, when his debi would have fallen due for payment: and he recovered that, not pari passu with the interest paya-ble to other creditors during the winding-up, but in priority to such

interest it was difficult to believe that Committee.

Lord Slynn, Lord Lloyd and Lord Hope agreed, Lord Hobhouse delivered a concurring judg-

Solicitors: Memery Crystal; Law-

Substituted service on indemnity fund

Abbey National plc v Frost (Stephen Leonard), Solicitors' Indemnity Fund Ltd in-

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Robert Walker

Judgment February 4

The court had power to order substituted service of a writ on the Solicitors' Indemnity Fund where a defendant solicitor indemnified by the fund had defaulted, even if there was no likelihood that such service would bring the proceedings to the defendant's notice.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Abbey National plc. reversing the decision of Mr Justice Carnwath (The Times March 12, 1998; [1998] 2 All ER 231), and restoring that of Master Moncaster who, on December 8, 1997, upheld the validity of an order by a district judge in Not-tingham on June 24, 1997, granting the plaintiff leave to effect substituted service of a writ issued against the defendant, Stephen Leonard Frost, by serving it on the Solici-tors' Indemnity Fund.

The defendant acted for the plaintiff building society and its borrower in relation to a loan secured on a leasehold flat in London in November 1990. The loan was for £160,000 and its avowed purpose was to assist the borrower to purchase the flat for £195,000.

The plaintiff claimed that the defendant, negligently and in breach of fiduciary duty, omitted to tell it that the purchase was a sub-purchase with the consideration of £195,000 being apportioned as to to the sub-vendor. In October 1992. the borrower having defaulted on the mortgage, the plaintiff resold the flat for only E70.000.

The defendant, a sole practitioner, had been struck off the roll of solicitors for conduct unconnected with the present case and was reported to be living in Thailand. The Rules of the Supreme Court provide by Order 65, rule 4: "(1) If it appears to the court that it is

serve ja document such as a writ) in the manner prescribed, the court may make an order for substituted service... "(3) Substituted service of a docu-ment ... is effected by taking such

impracticable for any reason to

steps as the court may direct to bring the document to the notice of the person to be served." Mr Rupert Jackson. QC and Mr Andrew Goodman for the plaintiff; Mr Richard Seymour, QC and Mr

Manhew Jackson for the fund. LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that the court was compelled by the evidence to proceed on the footing that, if the order for substitut service were restored, there was no reach the defendant or come to his

On that footing. Mr Seymour rule 4 no order for substituted service, whether by service on the fund or otherwise could properly be

He relied on Porter v Freudenberg (1915] | KB 857, 888-890) in which the Court of Appeal held that substituted service should only be permitted where the plaintiff was unable to effect personal service and the writ was "likely to his knowledge if the method of substituted service which is asked for by the plaintiff is adopted.

Mr Justice Carnwath had accepted Mr Seymour's contention that that case established a general rule, which applied to the present fendant's whereabouts were unknown and there was no likelihood that the writ would reach him or come to his knowledge.

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The judge had not been referred to the rules of court as they stood when Porter v Freudenberg was decided. As set out in The Supreme Court Practice 1914, they included a provision in Order 9, rule 2 for substituted service broadly equiva-lent to the present Order 65, rule 4(1), but there was no equivalent of the present rule 4(3).

However, the notes to Order 10. the equivalent of the present Order 65, rule 4(2), providing for supporting affidavits, in the 1914 edition set out "principles usually followed as to 'substituted' or other service' which had been settled by the King's Bench masters in May 1908, and included the following: "If the writ is not likely to reach the defendant nor to come to his knowl-edge if service is substituted, then as a general rule substituted service should not be ordered."

in Porter v Freudenberg, the court gave leave to effect substituted service on two German nationals, personal service on whom was impossible in time of war, by service on their agents in this country. The defendants had assets in

this country which it would have been unjust to take in execution unless the court could be satisfied the writs were likely to reach them or come to their knowledge. li was therefore n

court to express itself as it did in that case in the form of a general rule. But general expressions of opinion, however eminent their source, must always be read in the light of the particular facts which occasioned them. Despite its acceptance of the

principles adopted by the King's Bench masters, the views expressed by the Court of Appeal in Porter v Freudenberg could not be treated as having narrowed the discretion under what was now Order 65, rule 4(1) in relation to other facts, in particular where there was reason to suppose that the de-fendant had chosen to disappear and would be most unlikely, if served, to contest the claim or assist the fund in doing so.

The current wording of Order 65, rule 4(3) was introduced in 1962. Its effect, broadly stated, was to elevate the principle of discremasters into the rule itself

On that footing, his Lordship was unable to agree with the judge that it carried an implied requirement that the order would be likely to bring the document to the notice of the person to be served. Rule 4(3) could not detract from

the discretion of the court under rule 4(1). It was intended to provide the vast majority of orders for sub-stituted service. Its effect could perhaps best be understood by reading in the words "if any" between "taking such steps" and "as the court may direct".

In the present case, the fact that the defendant solicitor's whereabouts were unknown and there was no likelihood that the writ would reach him or come to his knowledge, was no bar to an order for substituted service on the fund if it would otherwise be proper to make such an order.

Having regard to the purposes for which the fund was set up and the public nature of its obligations in relation to defaulting solicitors. his Lordship agreed with the master that it was proper in the present

Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Robert Walker agreed. Solicitors: Curtis & Parkinson, Notingham: Wansbroughs Willey Hargrave.

Plea-bargaining bid deplored

Regina v Dossetter

Pica-bargaining to extract from a judge an exact sentence formed no part of English jurisprudence.

Lord Justice Rose so stated on January 29 when, sitting in the Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, with Mr Justice Hooper, the court dismissed the appeal of Anthony William James Dossetter against a seven year sentence of imprisonment imposed at Chester Crown Court by Judge Dutton on July 16, 1998 on conviction of con-spiracy to produce counterfeit mon-

HIS LORDSHIP said that on June I and 2, 1998 there had been sia visits by Dossetter's counsel to the judge's private chambers. That was a blatant attempt by counsel to engage in plea-bargaining with the judge before Dossetter decided to plead guilty.

Fortunately, the visits were taperecorded. In R v Turner ((1970) 54 Cr App R 352) Lord Parker of Waddington, Lord Chief Justice, set out principles which had to be applied to private discussions between judge and counsel that had since been repeated in the courts.

It was also stated by Lord Lane. Lord Chief Justice, in R v Warth ((1991) 12 Cr App R (S) 680) that there should be no visits to a judge except in most exceptional circumstances and there was a need for

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CHANGING TIMES

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The inevitable hullabaloo over performance-related pay hijacked the debate over this week's proposals for attracting more and better graduates into the teaching profession. There was more to the Government's proposals, and there needed to be. Rewarding high performance should

help to prevent good teachers from leaving the profession, as they have been doing in ever-increasing numbers. But the promise of incentives several years into a career is not going to sway many of the thousands of graduates who turn their backs on teaching each year. Starting salaries have never compared badly with those of other graduate occupations.

David Blunkett, the Education Secre-

tary, should be wary of placing all his eggs in the performance-related basket in any case, because the system is far from certain to work effectively. Government spokesmen were talking tough this week, insisting that change would come no matter what the opposi-

tion. But that is a different matter from

making it act as the magnet the Govern-

The unions were always going to resist anything that could be portrayed as a throwback to Victorian payment by reLifting morale with pay

sults. Yet how could this fail to be part of a merit-based system? Pupil achievement, after all, is what schools are all about. The sticking point, as usual, is how it should be measured.

The National Union of Teachers will oppose the concept, no matter what, and has already threatened industrial action. The union is demanding that all senior teachers cross the proposed pay threshold - a stance that says everything about its willingness to contemplate a new approach. The National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT) has also come out against the scheme since it discovered the scale of the Government's demands. Even the Professional Association of Teachers, the most conservative of the unions, was critical this week.

Nigel de Gruchy, NASUWT's general secretary, predicted a "grassroots rebellion" when teachers saw that they would be required to sign new contracts and play a fuller role in the school to qualify

for higher pay rates. There might be jam tomorrow," he said, "but it's jam tomorrow if you're prepared to do extra work tomorrow."

Ministers probably ex-pected trouble from the classroom unions, but it will be the attitude of head teachers which determines whether performance-related pay works as intend-ed. The proposals give heads a lot of flexibility in judging their staff, and some will be reluctant to use it. The collegiate ideal runs deep in education, and it will take time for some head teachers to accept

which they fear will divide the staff-Others will balk at the complexity of the system and its demands on the time

will be required to agree individual targets and monitor their implementation. as well as taking responsibility for the outcome. Peter Smith, the general

secretary of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, says: "i've never read anything so bureaucrane and bewildering in my life." Estelle Morris. School Standards Minis-

ter, did her best to sell the

package to teachers at the latest of the Government's consultation meetings in Birmingham this week. "We will raise the standing of the profes-

sion." she said. "We will reward good teachers so that they don't get stuck on relatively low levels of pay, improve the quality of training and remove teachers ouired.

Here lies the real challenge for recruitment to the profession, rather than retention. Everyone agrees that this is about more than just money, but governments alone cannot alter the "standing of the profession" and the official messages are

Take Ms Morris's statement. Performance-related pay should be good news for a profession whose morale could do with a lift. The majority should benefit eventually and ministers have guaranteed that there will be no limit on numbers. Likewise, the promised improvements to training, which Mr Blunkett now plans to oversee personally.

Yet even at a meeting intended to win over teachers comes the apparently oblig-atory focus on under-performance. After almost two years in which Labour ministers have made it crystal clear that they will be less tolerant of failure than their predecessors, the carrot still cannot appear without a big stick in the back-

Undoubtedly, there remains an urgent need for improvement in many schools, but it would be more likely to come about with a better balance between the Government's promised com-

bination of "pressure and support". Even the Teacher Training Agency. whose own performance is to be scrutinised by Mr Blunkett, has expressed concern at the effect on recruitment of constant criticism of state schools. Professor Clive Booth, the TTA's chairman, told the Girls' Schools Association before Christmas that he was confident his message had been heard and that ministers would adopt a more positive tone. Let us

hope that he is right. Even yesterday, at the publication of a survey on instrumental music tuition. Dr Janet Ritterman, the Principal of the Royal College of Music, identified plummeting self-esteem as the most serious cause of growing teacher shortages.

If you tell a profession often enough that it is full of dead wood, and its own representatives constantly emphasise the negative aspects of the job. it is not surprising if young people choose to look elsewhere for a career.

MAPTIN BEDDALL-FROMA HAMSON-SIMON WALKER

Pushing back boundaries for school governors

Guidelines are needed to ensure that governors understand their position. David Tytler reports

chool governors have been put into the front line of the Government's drive to raise standards in state schools. They already have overall responsibility for the curriculum and this week they were told that they would become the final arbiters of performance-re-

lated pay. There has always been a grey area between the govern-Governors have the legal responsibility for ensuring good quality education and the head and staff are obliged to report to them on how well the school is doing. But governors cannot be responsible for the day-to-day running of the school, even though they are expected to monitor standards and approve strategies. How are they expected to achieve

The latest form of Ofsted inspection reports gives some guidance. For example, the head teacher, staff and governors might be told to raise standards by ensuring that the programmes for study in the national curriculum are fully taught, and by continuing to

monitor the teachers' pro-Once a plan for improve-

ment is approved, the governors are responsible for seeing that it is carried out. Mavis Grant, of Newcastle's Mary Trevelyan Primary

School, named by Ofsted as one of England's most-improved schools, says: "Governors can help in lots of ways. They should sit down with the head and the senior staff, and work out the best way to do it." As the head of a school which has piloted the literacy

hour, Ms Grant has more than two years' experience of the most delicate issue of the moment for primary schools. She says: "One governor took special responsibility for literacy. He came into class, talked to teachers and pupils, and had discussions with me before giving his own report to the governing body. It is helpful for governors to get a different perspective on the school." Even governors who cannot

find time to visit classrooms can help to raise standards through strategic planning, Ms Grant believes. David Hart, general secre-

tary of the National Association of Head Teachers, is more doubtful about how much governors can do to raise standards. "I think it would be very difficult to get them involved, other than in setting targets and then reviewing progress with the head.

> "The Government's proposals are asking them to do a lot: the appraisal of heads, receiving recommendations about ly levels, and being involved in the annual review of progress made by the school.lt would be difficult for them to become involved in a way which does not interfere with the management of the head. I hope that when the Government's proposals are finalised. they will try to draw a distinction between governance and management, which until now has too often been blurred."

> Some of his concerns are shared by Pete Bishop, head teacher of Vyner Primary School, in Birkenhead, who savs: "Governors cannot do very much without training. At the moment they have to be guided by somebody who understands the process, and in most cases that is the head."







governors with jobs may not have enough time to devote to the school. "I fail to see how they can do all that is necessary to monitor standards on a sound basis," he adds, "They could base their views of a school's performance on the end-of-year tests. That may be simple but it is also simplistic. in a primary school, you have to go back over the years on reading tests, spelling tests. baselines assessment and so on, and know about the chil-

dren and their backgrounds." Mr Bishop sees trouble if guidelines are not laid down. Governors, he fears, "might want to extend their powers beyond what is reasonable; for example, going into classes and acting like inspectors".

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How to beat exam stress

aster revision courses must sound to many pupils like a cruel way to spend precious holiday time, but more and more students are finding them a vital addition to their term's work.

"I've learnt more in the past few days than all year," were the flattering words from one student in her end-of-course evaluation. This, of course, cannot be entirely true you can't cover in five days what you would normally study over five terms. The important thing is that the student believed she had made a breakthrough. Her confidence level had soared, based on actual grades for practice essays and she had learnt more about exam technique than at school.

However, some teachers are sniffy about their students going on revision courses, perhaps seeing such participation as a reflection of their own inadequacy. Occasionally, they would be right. According to Norman Dovey. who has run economics revision at Wellington College in Crowthorne, near Bracknell, for several years, some students do turn up under-prepared for the forthcoming A levels.

Illness, big classes, change of school and change of teacher are bad luck; not covering the required syllabus by Easter is either risky brinkmanship or bad planning. Many students who enrol at Wellington, and other courses, are "borderline" candidates. Their first-choice university, for example, wants a "C" grade, but a "D" is being predicted. Bumping up students by one critical

grade is a usual target. However, you don't have to be behind or between grades to consider an Easter revision course. As one student said to me "I've had really good teachers. It worried me, though, that during the Easter holiday and study leave. I'd be getting no tuition." He has a point. e gening no tandon students can sud
At a critical time, students can sud
cause I spent a day sitting in on lessons cussed over drinks.

Revision courses give confidence, says David Thomas



denly find themselves cut off from a life of teacher help and feedback. Many cannot work well alone or concentrate in a home environment. A one-week, onesubject revision course cannot help but focus the mind. Nigel Stout, managing director of Mander Portman Woodward (MPW) tutorial colleges, says that occasionally students are booked in, usually by anxious parents, for three weeks. These are not called intensive courses for nothing; though the length of study is feasible, the demands on stamina and motivation are probably

Even a week is hard graft I know be-pers, the day's progress can be dis-

in MPW London. "Gruelling" and "mind-blowing" were some of the terms used by my fellow students as we relaxed after a four-hour session. They were also unanimous that the system was effective.

At MPW, Easter numbers rose from 518 in 1996 to 918 last year. Mr Stout attributes this to recommendations and the fact that MPW courses are geared not merely to individual subjects but also to modules within subjects, and to specific syllabuses and examination

I joined Richard Martin's English class, where the pace was brisk, the fo-cus clear and all the students were challenged. We worked on King Lear, from the point of view of discussing how we would use our knowledge to good effect in an exam. Steve Boyes, one of the course directors, confirmed that although notes are taken, the emphasis is on understanding, study skills and the development of appropriate questionanswering techniques.

Extra schooling is not a cheap option: a 40-hour week costs £525 for one subject every day and an hour of invigilated examination practice.

At Wellington there is the chance to live in, an option taken up by 60 per cent of students. Nick Jones, the course director, believes that £485 for a fully residential week with 30 hours of contact teaching represents good value for

For students who have never boarded, it is a useful preparation for university; and from the evaluation sheets filled in by students at the end of the course, it is clear that Wellington's sports facilities - squash, badminton, swimmine. soccer and weights - are well used in the afternoon break. After 9 o'clock, while tutors are marking practice pa-

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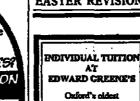


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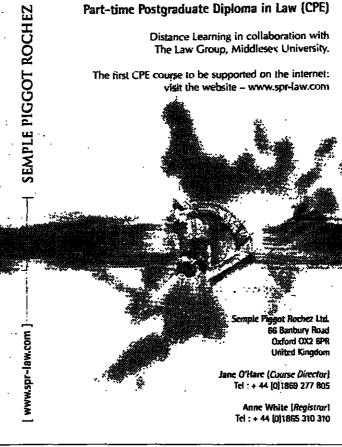
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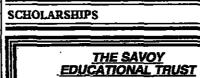
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out - soon. There are far too

many games of no conse-

quence that purport to be

proper fixtures. So Sri Lanka

beat England on Wednesday

night. So what? England will

shortly go to Sharjah, togeth-

er with Sri Lanka, India and

Pakistan. Who cares, except

There is too much cricket.

too much bad cricket, and the

people to suffer are the cricket-

ers, who will be burnt out

before their time. Unless, of

course, they are called Wells

and Alleyne, in which case

they might think the develop-

ment of the one-day game is a

jolly good thing because it

gives them a chance to say they "played for England".

in the bash the other night

and Wells made a few runs.

going in first. It will probably

be the nearest that they get to

representing England in the

World Cup. It was not neces-

sarily a mistake to bring them

here - a team needs its sup-

porting cast and they are

"good pros" - but if you see Wells striding out to bat in

May in a powder blue shirt

and Alleyne trundling in to

fill a few overs in mid-innings.

it may be time to head for the

Still, there are games left to

win and England want to win

them. Fairbrother is an injury

doubt hampered by a dodgy hamstring, and, as Mullally sat it out on Wednesday, it

may be time to give Gough a rest this time. Australia intend to give McGrath a break, to keep him fresh, or fresher, for

the best-of-three shoot-out.

The ground will be packed

to the rafters for this game.

Alleyne took three wickets

the bookies?

India fade as Saglain spins web

FROM RICHARD HOBSON IN DELHI

DELHI (first day of five: India won toss): India have scored 247 for eight wickets against

THE feeling of goodwill ex-tended towards Pakistan in Madras last week gave way to a simmering rancour at the Ferozshah Kotla ground yes-terday. If Pakistan build on a handy start to win the second Test, they are unlikely to be asked to repeat the lap of honour that provided such an appropriate postscript to the O first, thrilling contest.

An overwhelming, sometimes overbearing police presence helped to ensure that unfriendly chanting did not develop into more sinister hostility. Uniformed officers made up a big percentage of a crowd of around 15,000 that barely halffilled the stadium and it might have been just as well that more than a third of them had departed before Pakistan claimed four wickets in the last half-hour.

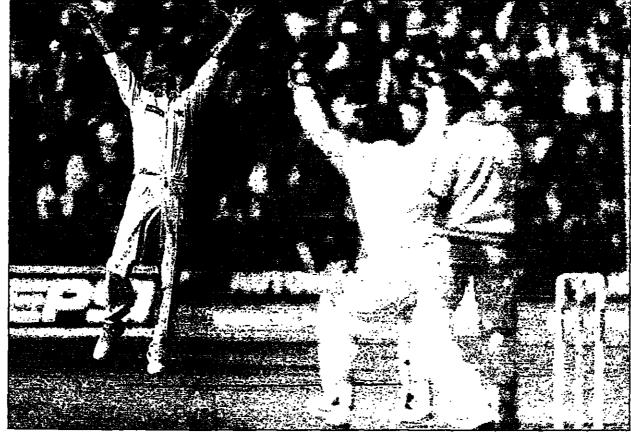
Inzamam-ul-Haq endured taunts of "aloo" every time he fielded the ball and even, uncharitably, when he went off having been struck by a firm drive from Azharuddin. The word translates as "potato"

and refers to his rather portly figure. Two years ago, in a one-day tournament Toronto, he responded to this same cry by uprooting a stump and running towards the stand in search of his critic.

He was more restrained here. Threats to let loose cobras in the arena failed to materialise and the 16 snake charmers brought from a nearby village as a precaution were allowed to remain inconspicuous and enjoy the cricket.
Mobile telephones were con-

fiscated at the gate before Atal Behari Vajpayee, the Prime Minister, had left the ground in the morning. Reports that he would meet the players. along with his decision to board the inaugural run of a bus service between Delhi and Lahore to improve diplomatic relations, had shared the front pages with speculation as to whether a certain batsman would recover from injury in time to play.

"Never have so many people been so worried about the health of Sachin Tendulkar," The Times of India said. He did, indeed, declare himself fit, but scored only six runs before falling to Saqlain Mushtaq for the third innings in succes-



Saqlain makes no attempt to disguise his joy at the fall of Tendulkar, India's champion, trapped leg-before for six

sion. Saglain bowled beautifully once again and can expect another congratulatory fax from Surrey.

He has so far taken five for 94 in 34.5 overs on a slow pitch where the danger, as at Madras, lies in variable bounce rather than lavish turn. Pakistan would be even better placed but for spilling four catches. Yet India should feel even more annoyed, because they failed to build on an opening stand of 88 from Ramesh and Laxman. Too many batsmen got out after playing themselves in and the initiative swung towards Pakistan

If the pattern continues in

Harare, England A might just

din fell in successive overs to sweetly. His attempt to pull Mushtaq Ahmed late on. Saglain from outside off Ramesh looks a useful find. stump, soon after completing An upright left-hander, he a maiden Test half-century. plays attractively through the off side and times the ball represented a rare misjudg-ment. Tendulkar fell in

SCOREBOARD FROM DELHI

INDIA: First Irvang Ramesh b Saqtam V S Laxman b Wasim ... Extres(b.11,657.nb.6).

B K V Prasad and H Singh to bet.

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Saglain's next over, deceived by the flight of a full-length ball that he had attempted to paddle towards fine leg. Azharuddin provided a few

wristy strokes to complement the defence of Dravid during a fourth-wicker partnership of 69 before Dravid received one of the few deliveries from Saglain that did turn appreciably. Wasim Akram declined to take the new ball and was rewarded when Ganguly fell trying to force Mushtau to leg and Azharuddin, on 67, edged to slip. When Saqlain added the wickets of Kumble and Srinath, Pakistan could feel con-

England left weary by trivial pursuit

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN SYDNEY

THANKFULLY, to the great relief of all the players, if not all the spectators, some of whom seem to like the kind of bloated, 50-over rubbish that masquerades as cricket, the triangular tournament involving Australia, England and Sri Lanka starts to wind up

England play their last group game at the Sydney Cricket Ground against Australia, who then meet Sri Lanka in Melbourne on Sunday. None of it matters. Australia and England will play three times in the final next week if three games are necessary in Sydney and, twice, in Melbourne. And that will be that, another competition done and dusted. None of these competitions matter a jot, except the World Cup, for which this shindig is a preliminary and unappetising skirmish.

This is the time of year when England players start thinking of green fields, wet afternoons and pints with foaming heads. They have played a Test series, carried their bodies through ten oneday games of no real importance and must now play at least three more when some of them - Gough and Stewart for instance - are so exhausted that they hardly know where they are.

The International Cricket Council must sort this matter



Great will be the cheering. As Dame Nellie Melba used to

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say: "Give 'em muck.'

NEW PLYMOUTH (third day of four): New Zealand Un-der-19, with all second-innings was an excellent 91 by Ian

wickets in hand, need 344 runs to beat England Under-19 DESPITE another patchy

batting display, England Under-19 compiled more than enough runs to ensure at least a draw in the first "Test" of the series against New Zealand. The beacon in the England second-innings total of 290 FROM JOHN STERN IN NEW PLYMOUTH

Bell takes full toll of New Zealand attack

Matt Bulbeck, a tall left-Bell, just 16, of Warwickshire. hander, whose forte is left-He was watchful against the arm swing bowling, made 51 seamers and took advantage to boister the England lead afof anything short or wide ter a middle-order collapse. from the spinners. He and Mark Wallace added He looked firmly on course 48 for the final wicket. The

for a century until being runout — when he slipped trying to make his ground at the non-striker's end after a cover drive by Michael Carberry.

finish off Zimbabwe A's first innings by the end of their five-day match (Thrasy Petropoulos writes). The rains returned yesterday, allowing only 19.3 overs of play on the third day, a marginal improvement on the 9.5 overs of day two but not quite the 23 overs of the first day. Zimbabwe A New Zealand opening batsmen then survived the final had reached 147 for seven by the premature close. ten overs before the close.

Scoreboards, page 49

Barnett ends innings

THE 20-year career of Kim Barnett with Derbyshire is over after the county and player parted company by mutual agreement.

In a brief statement, Derbyshire said Barnett had been released from his contract, which had two years to run. "with sincere regret". He asked to be released in November as the controversy surrounding the future of Dominic Cork as captain deepened.

That issue has still to be resolved and an extraordinary general meeting will be held in March.

West Indies Cricket Board officials have demanded an inquest into their team's crushing Test and one-day defeats in South Africa. Clive Lloyd, the team manager, Malcolm Marshall, the coach, and Brian Lara, the captain, have been summoned to a meeting

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Littmoden finds sand provides firm foundation

BY CHRIS MCGRATH

THE man who built his house on sand has traditionally been prey to ridicule, but there is nothing remotely foolhardy in the way Nick Littmoden is laying down the foundations for his training career.

To jumping enthusiasts, Flat racing on the sand at Lingfield. Southwell and Wolverhampton is a numbing palliative to bad weather, but to Littmoden it has become the hedrock of ambitious plans for expansion. Not only is he the leading trainer on the allweather this winter, with 20 winners, he has, so far, been based at the trackside barns at Wolverhampton. Now he is transferring the bulk of his 65 horses to the Newmarket stables vacated by the retirement of Julie Cecil.

At 36, he is raising the stakes with considerable bravura. "The move is about getting quality horses and owners." he said at Lingfield yester-

day.
"In two years' time, I want to be pushing for major hon-ours. I love all-weather racing. but don't want to get stuck in everyone's mind as the allweather trainer, I started with three horses but always set out to achieve something. I want to win classics, I want to win championships. It's been a struggle, but maybe there's light at the end of the tunnel

If a mighty oak is indeed growing here, Littmoden will be forever indebted to one of those three little acorns. Cretan Gift cost just 1,350 guineas

2.30 Wynbury Flyer

3.00 Tumpole



Littmoden: testing time

out of John Dunlop's yard and promptly split a pastern, but 18 months ago he hit the bull's eye as Littmoden's first runner in a pattern race, winning a group three sprint at Leopards-

With that old eccentric. Tertium, winning Kempton's Jubilee Handicap last season and the likes of Baron De Pichon showing contrasting enthusi-asm this winter, Littmoden has consolidated a reputation for finding the right niche for his horses. To him, getting the most out of a horse is a double challenge: it must be equal to each opportunity in terms of both ability and physical condi-

"I firmly believe there's a result in almost every horse." he said. "I'm quick to offer an opinion if I think a horse is without ability. I'd rather we found something better, but failing that I'd rather have an empty box. Once I find the right grade, though, it will stay with me for a long time. I'm a great believer in the importance of feed, and I do a lot of groundwork, take a long time gening them fit initially. Once they're there, they'll keep

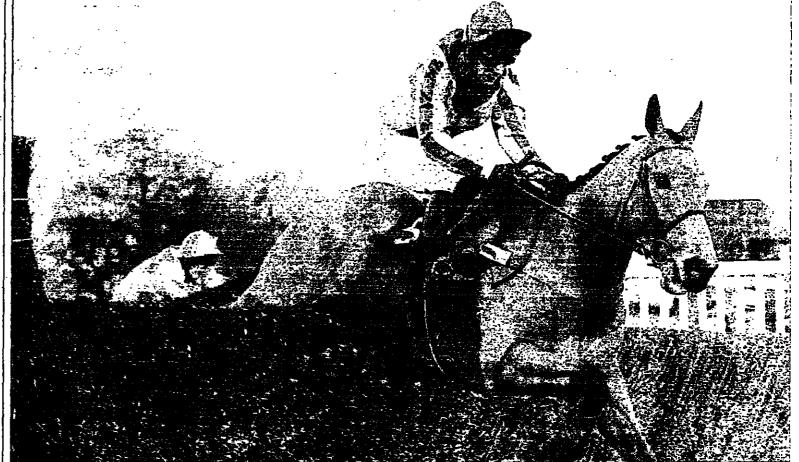
Similar durability is required of the trainer, a man ustained by abundant personal energies and self-belief. He feels a genuine sense of vocation, despite rather stumbled into the sport.

His grandmother sowed an early interest by taking him to Brighton races as a child, but it was only a chance meeting with Mick Masson, who trained at his native Lewes, that released a yawning bank clerk from his torments. "I'm quite an active person and was bored senseless," he said, "But I fell in love with the idea of training as soon as I started with Mick."

Having followed his own path with such assurance, principally through interval training and careful feeding, he is unlikely to lose his sense of direction in the open spaces of Newmarket Heath.

Nonetheless, he acknowledges a certain culture shock to be inevitable. Twe got my own ideas and I've already been scouting round the gallops for the right places to do things the way I have always done them. It's a major step, but I wouldn't want to look back in five years' time regretting I hadn't done it."

He concluded: "I'm expecting a real struggle this year, especially in this spring. But I believe in setting goals and I want to train 50 winners this year. I'd like to think I can compete in every grade."



Ramaliah, ridden by Culloty, jumps clear of his rivals on his way to victory in the Tote Chase (Showcase Handicap) at Towcester yesterday

Ramallah recaptures winning form

By OUR RACING STAFF

HENRIETTA KNIGHT refused to take the credit for the turnaround in Ramailah's fortunes at Towcester yesterday. After three runs this year, reading "PPF", the ten-year-old gave his connections little cause for optimism going into the £10,000-added Tote Chase (Showcase Handicap).

But he improved on those performances to gain his fourth course and distance success at the expense of the 13-8 favourite, Rightsaidfred. Having jumped to the front at the third last, the 7-1 winner clouted the penultimate obsta-

de and, although Rightsaid-

fred and Graham Bradley closed the gap after the last. there was still two lengths between the pair at the line, with a distance back to Wandering

As Jim Culloty dismounted, the trainer handed the credit for the win to the bay's breeder and part-owner. Marie Steele. "Full marks to the owner for this," she said, "She chose the race, she walked the course and she wanted to run. had my doubts because I thought it could be too sticky for him. I take no credit for

"But he does love Towcester and the horses are just returning to form. They weren't

ful Aspect to win the Corpo-RICHARD EVANS rate Bonding At The Races Novices' Chase. When the son of top sprinter Cadeaux Ge-Nap Count Karmuski nercux was foaled at the (4.00 Cattericki Gainsborough Stud six years Adrian Maguire has a good record for Ferdy

Murphy and his recent course winner should appreciate today's longer Next best Action (200 Catterick)

right about two months ago. but I feel they are back to themselves now. Wandering Light's trainer.

Henry Daly, saddled Cheer-

age to trouble Benny The Dip at Epsom, but he proved more than a match for Colone! Hook in the Broadway: ago, it is unlikely his owners were thinking of this sort of race, as Daly observed. ite. Radomsko.

After Cheerful Aspect had justified 6-4 favouritism by 13 lengths from Spring Double. the trainer said: "He is bred to get all of six furiongs. I don't think two miles and six in sticky ground at Towcester was what they had in mind." Steve Gollings. Get The Point's trainer, suggested that his five-year-old was "bred to

win a Derby". He didn't man-

Stampings Novices' Hurdle in the process turning round Huntingdon running with the third-placed odds-on favour-It was a similar story for Is-

meno. Sired by Ela-Mana-Mou out of a Seattle Slew mare, he came into the world in the care of Sheikh Mohammed's lavish breeding set-up. The top-weight lived up to his fine pedigree by comfortably beating Province in the Levy Board Handicap Hurdle on his first outing for David

2.00 Splendid Melody 3.30 Springfield Scally 4.00 Minster Glory

4.30 Orleans

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.00 SPLENDID MELODY.

2.00 EBF NH NOVICES HURDLE (QUALIFIER)

112.	יים עוטי	ii ai) (in imalga)	
101	1-0531	SPLENDED MELODY 14 (S) (8 Sewart-Brown) T Tale 5-11-5	16
102	322	ACKZO 69 (BF) (P Abbreson) F Murphy 6-11-0	8
103	46-04	JOSLY MINISTER 36 /D Albinson) Mrs Mr Reveloy 5-11-0	6
1D4	41)	MEADOWBANK 11 (6 Shoules) M W Easterby 5-11-0 Mr K R O'Ryan (7)	9
105	0-04	RIVER DOUGLAS 50 (G Tombull Ltd) Mrs A Seinbank 7-11-0	-
106	50-000	ROCKY MY BOY 11 (J Henderson (Co Duntairs)) Mrs S Smith 5-11-0 .R Williamon (5)	3
197	30-40	RODDERS 41 (R Malcatte) J Glover 6-11-0R Guest	4
108	SP 500	SCOTMAIL BOY 50 (G Brown & B Walson) J Howard Johnson 6-11-0 A Dobbin	5
109	D-3	STEELERS DREAM 13 (8 Hopers) T-Fasterby 7-11-0L Wyer	-
110	00-03	MARTHA'S MOONSTONE 29 (Nrs L Transpa) J Charlion 5-10-9 B Storey	-
BETTO	NG. 10-11	1 Splendid Melody, 11-4 Ackzo, 8-1 Steelers Drewn, 10-1 Mesdowbank, 14-1 July Minsles, 1	30-

1998: JESSICA ONE 7-11-0 P North (7-4 lar) Mr.; M Reveley 12 ran

1998: ASSEA ONE 7-11-0 P Nation (7-4 by that in review) 12 and 1998: ASSEA ONE 7-11-0 P Nation (7-4 by that in review) 12 and 1998: Splandid Melody beat M Busby 23 in 9-names novice burdle at Kelso Cm. 2, keavy), previously 51-3 of at 11 in floates in novice hardle at key-cate (3m, good to soft), previously 61 and 18 in 6 Sarate Emperor in national head in the distance of Challenter (7m, 1904), good solly Minister 134 do of 18 in 6 Sarate Emperor in national head at cate of Challenter (7m orders at the novice hardle at Wetherby Core 41 109d, soll), previously 19 4 do 13 in Carbury Cores in prevez hardle at Wetherby (7m 41 109d, hoavy). River Dompies 201 dho 16 in Native Affair in retinosity may be a served to 18 and 18 of 18 and 18 dompies 18 and 18 and 18 in cate at Carbury Cores on specific Minister (2m, good). Rocky My Boy 65 7m of 9 to Saratesian in novice hardle at Wetherby (2m soll), previously 251 dho 16 in 3 to Kingdone in novice hardle at New Latter (7m 30 in 18 by Saratesian in novice hardle at Melletty (8b) with 18 and 18 in 18 and SPLENDID MELODY won very combinably latest and boasts strong claims in this company

2.30 DINSDALE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE

122.110 2	11 41) (21 141144)	
201 6-P404	DURAND 30 (B.S) (C Stevers) T Easterby 8-12-0	34
05 0340	NOBLE NORMAN 13 (G) (M Vernori) Mrs M Reveloy B-11-8	5
306 FF4-U0	KAKASHDA 13 (J. Jahrson) J Howard Johnson 8-11-8	- 1
207 23-408	KAKASHAA 13 J. J. BERSON J. PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF THE	1
208 0153	JACK FLISH 13 (CD.G) (D Smith) B Rottwell 5-11-5T Signal	B
15 67 856	ONE STOP 21 to defend to be bond to be been \$ 10.4	ġ
216 -55243	SETTON BLAKE 36 (Mrs S Le Gros) M Meaghe 5-10-4 M H Mandato	
70 60 000	PACKITIN PARKY 28 (A A Packaging Ltd) D McCain 6-10-0 A C Coyle PACKITIN PARKY 28 (A A Packaging Ltd) D McCain 6-10-0 M Gailfi (4)	_
- CE COLODO	PACKTIN PARKY 28 IA 4 PROSAING DOI D MACAGINE - M. Gauff (4)	3
221 35000	COURT INTERNAL TO IN THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE	

Lang transficap. Don Tocorio 9-13. Crom Milore 9-12, Real Fine 9-10. Pactotin Parky 9-7, Eddle Rombio 9-5 BETTING S-1 Crations 5 Frade, 13-2 Be Brave, Wyndowy Flyes, 7-1 Selfon Blake, 8-1 Jack Flush, 10-1 Datamo, Courl John 10-1 others 1998: RECRUITMENT 5-11-6 N Honocks (11-2) 3 Turner 17 ran

Durano 5/4 4th of 9 to Overstrain in setting hardle at Mussetburgh (2m, pood). Be Brave bear Court Johns (7th better off) 15 in 11 - runnin setting pood). Be Brave bear Court Johns (7th better off) 15 in 11 - runnin setting pood). Be Brave bear Court Johns (7th better off) 15 in 11 - runnin setting pood). Be Brave bear Court Johns (7th better off) 15 in 11 - runnin (8th better off) 19 Ch and Mobile Norman (8th better off) 19 Director (7th bear off) 19 Ch and Mobile Norman (8th better off) 19 Ch and 19 to 19 BE SRAVE is consistent on thesi grade and can und to last month's Caherick gains of a 7to higher mark

3.00 STAYERS NOVICES CHASE (£4.432: 3m 1f 110yd) (5 runners)

BETTING 1.5 Venepole 2-1 Side Gale 33-1 Mt Walt 50-1 Homoundaing Intendswood 1998 LOAD FORTUNE B-11-4 R Canthy (7-2) M Hammond 11 can

1998 LORD FORTUNE B-11-4 It Cannity (7-2) M Hammond 11 cm

Mr Well pulled up at novice hadde at Carlsta (2m 4) 110yd, heavy), prevaused to Calls at Carlsta (2m 4) 110yd, heavy), prevaused to Carlsta (2m 4) 110yd, heavy), preva(3m, 600d). Turnpole 93 is hot 11 to Prancible in hadde gode 1 at Assort
(3m, 600d). Turnpole 93 is hot 11 to Prancible in hadde gode 1 at Assort
(3m, 600d). Turnpole 93 is hot 11 to Prancible in hadde gode 1 at Assort
(3m, 600d). Turnpole 93 is hot 11 to Prancible in hadde gode to soil). Turnpole
(3m, 600d). Turnpole 93 is hot 10 in hadde gode 1 at Assort (3m 4) in hadde gode 1 at Assort
(3m 600d). Turnpole 93 is hadde gode 1 at Assort (3m 4) in hadde gode 1 at Assort
(3m 600d). Turnpole 93 is hadde gode 1 at Assort (3m 4) in hadde gode 1 at Assort
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(3m 600d). Turnpole 93 is hadde g TURNISHOUR uncounted on an obtain absence over tences has should present with a clear round

RACELINE CATTERICK 101 201 LINGFIELD 102 202 SOUTHWELL 103 203 G'HOUNDS 122 222 FUIL RESULTS SERVICE 168

SPECIALISTS LINGFIELD PARK: TRAINERS: R

C'Sullivan. 4 winners from 14 nm-ners. 28.6%. M Pipe, 15 from 54, 27.8%; G L Moore, 11 from 45, 24.4%; P Hobbs, 4 from 20, 20.0%; T Casey. P Hobbs, 4 from 20, 2019, 1 Case, 3 from 18, 16,7% Only qualifiers.

JOCKEYS: A McCoy. 14 winners from 43 ndes, 32,6% R Durawoody, 10 from 35, 28,6% M Fitzgeraid, 6 from 38, 21,1% M Batchelor, 4 from 26, 15,4%: P Hide, 5 from 35, 14,3%: N Williamson, 6 from 44, 13,6%, C Liewellyn, 5 from 37, 13.5%.

3.30 TOTE HANDICAP HURDLE ISHOWCASE RACE AND TOTE TRIFECTA RACE] (25,641: 3m 1f 110yd) (17 runners)

401 621-3P ATTAQALE 18 (D.F.S.S) (Low Figurs (Thoroughbreds) Ltd) A Duction 11-11-10 A Duction	101
402 1123F3 CRABAPPLE H&L 125 (V.F.S) (Bookles Runner) B Elfison 7-11-9 C McCommack (3)	38
403 231130 RUSSIAN ASPECT 13 (C.G.S.) (A Black) M W Easterly 5-11-8 Mr X R O'Ryan (7)	109
404 1-2264 MOLSUM 16 (S) (M Smith) Mrs P Sty 6-11-6	97
405 2131-4 CASH BOX 50 (G.S) (Dr T Wadtoo) 1 Cars 11-11-6	97 78
406 POTOTO SHARP COMMAND 8 (D.F.G.S) (A Holland & Mrs P Jones) P Eccles 6-11-5 A Maguire	100
407 3-21F1 ZAMHAREER 78 (F.C.S.) (Pow Racing) R Ford 8-10-13 Mus C Ford	91
408 114113 SPRINGFELD SCALLY 16 (BF.G.S.) (Mrs M Helt) S Gollangs 6-10-9 S Durack	107
409 63-223 ARCTIC FOX 36 (6F,CO,G) (J Milchell) Mrs M Revotey 7-10-9P Miven	96
410 -38253 VILPRANO SO (F,G) (Vilozaso Parinestrio) D Mofest 8-10-8 D J Mofest	
411 -42520 RADAMPOUR 21 (8,6,5) (T Pollock) J Howard Johnson 7-10-7, A S Smith	
411 -4232F ROUARTOUR Z1 (5.5.3) (1 FORDUL) INDUSTRIES (1 1) (1 - 1) (30
412 463-RP DARU 3 (V.S.) (Ats. J. Hughes) R Hollinsheed 10-10-5	薯
413 PAISO HASCALT 36 (P.B) CHIMISON MES S STEIN 9-10-3	-44
414 -0223P SAUCY NUN 53 (CD.F.G) (P Hait) P Hait 7-10-0 E Husband	ᆇ
415 25-076 KINDA GROOV! 36 (B.F.G) (I Park 10-t0-0	138
416 214432 HETCHHRIKER 16 (D.G.) (Miss: J States) R Woodbouse 5-10-0 Hannity (7)	105
417 00-P03 ALLERBECK 50 (Mrs. J. Lawson) J. Boulding 9-10-0 L. Cooper (7)	68
Long bandicast, Santy Nun 9-13, Kinda Groow 9-12, Histobika 9-10, Allerbeck 9-9	

1998: APCTIC FOX 6-10-8 P Noven (4-1 tax) Mrs M Revoley 11 ran

Inseler (3m 21, good to firm). Pluscian Aspect 23f 7th of 15 to Next Luzde in handleag hardle at Catherick (2m 31), previously 2113 and 17 to Major Sporson in novice handle at Catherick (2m 31, good to soft). Molssum 14 this of a Catherick (2m 31, good to soft). Molssum 14 this of a Catherick (2m 31, good to soft). Molssum 14 this of a Catherick (2m 31, good to soft) in Molssum 14 thigh, soft; periously hand facilities at distance 3 of 31 to Double Tarifler in handleag classe at Catherick (2m 11 110) of good to Birm. Zamitayree real Up And Over 81 in 13-names anaster handleag classe at Catherick (3m 11 110) of good to 80 th, Arctic For 103 and of 14 to 10 the Next Watter in handleag inches at Catherick (2m 11 110) of good to soft; Vilpranjo 7 tel 3 d of 17 to 18 by in handleag handle at Catherick (3m 11 10) of good of with Cash Box (levels) 7 and 4m, Radisripour healtes at distance 7 th of 10 to 10 from Saft in novice classe at Catherick (2m 11 10) of the 4d 9 the Saft of Microsian (2m 11 10) of the 4d 9 the Saft of Microsian (2m 11 10) of the 4d 9 the Saft of 14 to 16 to 10 the 10 th

VEPRAND lines up in good form and will be keeping on when others have check enough

4.00 MARNE HANDICAP CHASE

4,	224: 2T	n 3f) (9 rumers)	
01		WEAVER GEORGE 30 (BF,CD.F.G.S) (Regard Decouples) W Storey 9-11-10 R McGradi	9
2	25551	COUNT KARMUSKI 35 (C,S) (P Andreson) F Murphy 7-10-10 A Magnire	12
13	6-0770	BRANGLEBERRY 29 (F.G.S.) (Hampers Racing) Mrs S Smith 10-10-9 Mr J Catheley (5)	11
04	0-3016	LA RIVIERA 29 (CD.F.6) (J Hogg) J Charton 7-10-5 B Storey	11
05	320355	TAPATCH SO (B.F.G) (NESS V Foster) M W Exchany 11-10-4 L Wyer	12
06	54-122	MENSTER GLORY 50 (C.F.G.S) (Mrs. P. Hardey) Mr VI Easterty 8-10-3 C McCormath (3)	112
37	P41/33	MOSS PAGEANT 20 (G,S) (Mrs F Walton) J Walton 9-10-2 D Parker	12
M	-GRADO	LIDE SHAW 13 (G) (F Griestie) Mrs M Reveley 6-10-1 G Lee	10
09	604-U0	MAPLENGFORD 29 (CD.F.S) (Mrs. J Breman) Mrs. J Joiden 12-10-0 UN Hannity (7)	6

Long handican: Marfindland B-12 BIGTING: 7-2 Misses Glory, 4-1 Court Karmusto, 5-1 La Rivera, 6-1 Wester George, Moss Pageard, 13-2 Joe Singer 8-1 Tageach, 30-1 others 1998: NELTEGRITY 9-10-5 W Marston (3-1) Mr. P Siv 5 ian

Warren (3-1) Mr. P Sy 5 km

Warren George led in handrage chase at Microelburgh / 3m, poord prenoutly 1/13 of of 6 in Cheepay in handrage chase at Welfrestry (2m 4)

and the present of the character of the character of 3 km to 1 shown in 5-name handtag character of 2 thirds (2 mg off in soil) with Microel program (4 th better off) 3 km to 1 km 5-name handtag character of 3 km 1 shown in 5-name handtag character of 3 km 1 shown in 5 km

WEAVER GEORGE can make amends having let taxourite bookers down when failing mod-race lates!

4.30 HARTLEPOOL JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-0: £2,430: 2m) (18 runners)

BETTING: 11-4 Roveretro, 4-1 Konico. 5-1 Barrelbio, 5-1 King's Hussar 10-1 Disco Tox. 12-1 Mastroom, 14-1 Christiansted, Debyed Reaction, 16-1 others. 1998: COUNT TORY 11-5 R Gamely (4-5 law) M Harremond 10 can

1998: COUNT TORY 11-5 it Smithy (4-5 km) M Hammond 10 can

Barrettio 11 3d of 8 to Cengerman is 4 yo nysite hadde at Newszatic

Grow, heavy) Christianstead 280 into 41 5 to obtain flate in 35c maximum
of at Nason (7m, heavy); trevouchy 37 till not 15 to tace Guy in 3-o trade
of late of the Army of the State of 15 to heavy in 3-o trade
of 18 4 ho 8 to heat total in 3-o worker hards at Newszatic Chri, quod to 50th 40h Nortes (2th worse
off) 33 5th. Disco Tex 13 5th 4 to 8 to 15 to Regit to 3-o premise nowso largit at Newszatic Chri, heavy) with
Ning's Hassas (Revet) 38 4th Jack Reed 511 11 to 16 to Ballate 18 at m maximal hards at Lindon Chri,
Nortes 73 5th of 8 to Hand 18 to 39 o prove barde at Newszatic Chri, good to
50th, Nortes 73 5th of 8 to Hand 18 to 39 o prove barde at Newszatic Chri, good to 50th, Maximum
18 to 61 to 10 province hards at Newszatic Chri, good to 50th, Maximum
18 to 61 to 10 province hards at Newszatic Chri, Globacz 481 to 10 to 14 to 15 mg/b, Grown at 30 movince hards at Newszatic State of 13 to 14 to 15 mg/b, Grown at 30 movince hards at Newszatic Chri, good to 15 mg/b, grown 18 to 15 mg/b, Grown at 30 movince hards at Newszatic State of 12 mg/b of 12 to 15 mg/b, Grown at 30 movince hards at State of 12 mg/b, grown 18 to 15 mg/b, Grown at 30 movince hards at Cate of 2 mg/b, Grown at 30 movince hards at Cate of 2 mg/b, Grown at 30 movince hards at Cate of 2 mg/b, Grown at 30 movince hards at Cate of 2 mg/b, Grown at 30 movince hards at Cate of 2 mg/b, Grown at 30 mg/b, Grown at 30 mg/b, Grown at 12 to 16 mg/b, Grown at 12 mg/b, G

ROVERETTO limshed clear of the remainder when number-up test time and may now go one case

COURSE SPECIALISTS Wins Rars TRAINERS HAUNICHS T Eastrhy Ass A Revoley Nas A Swinbark J Claston O Robbed G M Motre J Jefferson W Surey Mrs S Smith F Marphy 49 105 23 44 22 69 21 36 36 P Niven R Carrety R Guest M Harmely L Wyer M Hornocks R Supple A S Smith J Cartaghan G Lee

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Catterick: 3:30 Crabapple Hill 4:30 Disco Tex. Lingfield Park: 1.40 Battleship Bruce. Southwell: 1.20 Antarctic Storm, Mercury, Tierra Del Fuego.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Towcester

Going: chases: solt, hurdles: solt with

2.10 (3m if ch) 1. Ramallah (J.Gullery 2.10 (3m if ch) 1, Rasfiellah IJ Gulony.*
7-1), 2, Rephisaktired (1-8 fav), 3, Wandering Light (5-2), 10 fan. 2l. dist Miss, H kinght. Tole. £7 80; £1 70, £1, 10, £2 30 DF. £13.80 Tole Tribect. £109 50 CSF. £17.86 Tricast. £35, 11, 2.40 (2m holle) 1, Get The Point (0 Gallagher, 9-1), 2, Colonel Hook (14-1), 3, Radomsko £4-5 tav) 10 ran. £21, £24 \$ Goldings. Tote £10 70; £2 30, £2 60, £1 10 DF. £46 70, CSF. £112.22

22 00 DF, £3,00 CSF £5 32.

3.40 (2m hdie) 1 ismeno (P Holley, 11-2), 2, Province (6-1) 3, Cap it it rou Can (3-1 ji-fav), Ambideatrous 3-1 ji-fav 9 ran. 131, 121. D Elsworth Tote £6 40. £2 00, £1 50, £1 30. OF, £14 50. CSF £35 71, Tincast, £107 44

CSS 77. Incast, \$10.744 4.10 (2m 119)d chi 1, Rovestar (8 Far-rant, 3-1), 2 Quango (3-1), 3, Beyond Cur Reach (7-41ay) 5 fan 61, 14 C Popham Tole: \$4.00, \$1.90, \$1.80 DF, \$4.490 CSF \$11.00. 4,40 (2m lian 1, The Hill Has Moved (R

4.40 (2m tall 1, The His has moved (F Dunwood, 6-4 tal., 2, Linnan (4-1):3, 3e-on Again (16-1) 14 ran NR. Ficres 34 21 P Hobbs Tote £2.50 £1.80. £2.30. £3.00 DF £9.20 CSF £7.45 Jackpot not won (pool of £4,741.45 carried forward to Catterick today), Placepot £27.20, Quadpot £3.80.

Kelso

Going: soft 2.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1. Knockara Fair (B Slorey, 1-3 lav), 2. Sozapiastic (33-1) 3. Sillymore (4-1) 12 ran NR. Colmarann, Klmothy, 91 31 J Charlton, Tote 21,30, 21 00, 52 40, 52 30 DF 514 00 CSF 223 16 2.30 (3m ti ch) 1, Radiation (R McGraft, 4-6 lav), 2, Castle Red (14-1) 3, Outerro Brigade (8-1), 7 (an NR Audert Scout 24), 241, J Ottell, Tote (1 70, 51 20, 51.80 DF 17/80 CSF (9.905 27.80 OF 17.60 CSF 915 3.00 CSh 110/g hdle) 1, Optimistic Chris (J Goldslein 6-1) 2 Brano (9-4), 3. Uniform (11-10 lary 6 ran 8), 6 Streeter Toto 27.80 £4.30, 21.40 DF £13.70 CSF £16.04

213.70 CSF £16.04
3.30 (2m6) 110/m chi 1 Devy Blake (4.5 smm, 5-1), 2. Swartbeser (2-1 tax) 3. Tough Test (7-2) 5 ran NP Better Times Ahead, Brambleberr, 111, 41 T Dalgetry Tota £5, 70, £2.40, £15.0 F; £3.90 CSF £11.23. Better Times Ahead (6.1) was withdrawn bot under starter 5 orders but 4 scrobers not better constron 10% on the 4 applies to all bein, decustion 10p in the

pound 4.00 (2m 2f hole) 1, Kilbue King (A Dob-ber, 11-4), 2, Grosserb (9-4 law, 3, Ges-pel Song (4-1), 11 ran 101 31 P Morteuth 7ate £580 £200, £160 £180 DF £8 10 CSF £270 Tricast £21 73 4.30 (3n 11 cm) 1. Andy Burnett (M. B. Gasson, 5-1) 2. Cool rule (16-1) 3. Cras Burn 3-1) 7. Cool rule (16-1) 3. Cras Burn 3-1) 7. Voung Sieven (6th) 7-2 lav 12 ran NR Makin Doo 10-21, Mass Sancia Porster, Tote 24-50 02 10 Placepot \$62.30. Quadpot: \$28.50.

Lingfield Park

Goling: standard 1.50 (5) 1 Squire Corrie (A Culhane, 11-2) 2 Rise in Shine (10-1), 3, Hall Tone (100-30 p-law), Dones Tenes (100-30 law (10 page), 191-3 D Chapman, Tote (7-40, 02-05) 02-65 E1-80 DF 624-80 CSF 657-21 Tricks), 6201-55 (240-20-3), Alexandrich Georgie (13-6) CSF 557-23 Treast 5201-55 2.20 (7t) Alamein (Ale Greaves, 13-6 lah) 2, Pondes (12-1) 2 Speedy Classo (5-2) 14 ran Shiha dri. Ditachola Tole 52 60, 51 14 Speedy Classoc 13-9, Periods 52:30 DF Alamen, Speedy Classoc 52 60 Alamen Pencies 52-50 CSF Alamen Speedy Classoc 52 60 Alamen Pencies 52-50 CSF Alamen Speedy Classoc 52 60 Alamen Pencies 52-59 Alamen Periodes 512-99

men speed; Casso 22 99 Alamon, Particle St.2 99
2.50 (1m 2i) 1 Kennet J Cuann, 6-1), 2. Baap 15-2, 3 Sama (20-1) Marsa Musa (6th) 15-8 fes 8 an 10t 114 P Cundell Tole 95 90 £2.20 £1 10 £4 50 DF £7 65 CSF £19,17
3.20 (1m* 1, Italian Symphony (C Cogan, 7-1 - 2, Flying Other (8-15 fain 114 5). P Evans Tote £4 90 £3 50 £1 10 DF £1.90 CSF £106 £1
3.50 (1m 2h 1 Totom (W Rish, 15-8 tax), 2 Kings Arrow (9-2), 3, Bold Onental (12-1) 6 ran MR Poi de Danse, 3, St. J Farshave Tote £4 40, £1,10, £2 10 DF, £5.00 CSF £10.23
4.20 (71) 1, Done And Dusted (F Norion)

\$5.00 CSF £10.23 4.29 (7) 1, Done And Dusted (F Norton 10-1), 2, Diamond Geoset (6-1) 3, Times Pet 20-1), Bratby (5th) 13-8 (av. 11 ran 1:4, 1:4 R Sichrotten Tote £13.30, £3.80, £3.10, £4.30 DF, £47.10 CSF £58.85 Thoast £1,131.86 Placepob £21.00. Ouadpob £9.00,

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER 1.40 Summer Flower, 2.10 Lord Of Love, 2.40 Ma-

iarlou, 3.10 Devonshire, 3.40 Ragib, 4.10 Heros Fatal. 4.40 Tickerty's Gift.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES)

1.40 worth wood selling handicap hurdle (£1,688: 2m 110yd) (16 runners)

21,000. 2411 1999 (10 144149)

1 4124 PHCLENATION 7 (S) Mars L Jevel 5-11-10 ... A P McCopy 73

2 31226 ROUMB RORN 8 (8.0.5) Mr., formson 5-11-7 ... J A McCartby 22

3 0525 SAMMER ROWER 7 (0.5) Mars L service 9-11-3 ... D Galagher 78

4 0-04 SPRINTFAYRE 222 (0.5-6.5) J Long 11-11-3 ... M A Provent 35

5 PDS3 RED BROOK LAD 30 S-Dow 4-11-2 M A Provent 42

6 6415 PARK ROYAL 21 (86 CO.S.) P Bulle 4-11-0 ... J Marphy 75 Machael Brennan
9 526 BOW BELLS 16 J. Incenh 4-10-6 J Goldstein (5)
10 PPO- MOGRI ANDMERRYNAKER 332 D Gardoto 9-10-6 S Wynne 10 PPO- MOGRILANDMERRYMANCH 332 D Gardebe 9:10-5 S Wynne
11 39-0 BATTLESHIP BRUCE 50 M B Limethy 7:10-1 Mass F Jones
12 SP-P SAND CAY 13F Mass G Aelleway 5:10-3 ... R Johnson
13 ORQ: ATDISLIN 779 R Curis 7:10-2 ... Leech
14 5:00 GOLDEN FAWN 23 M Haynes 5:10-1 ... C Lewellyn 57
15 PP-5 ON THE CARDS 15 A Buckle 6:10-0 ... D U Sullivan (7) 35
16 - OPP LLLY THE FILLY 9 Mas B Wang 8:10-0 ... E Byrne 4-1 Pair Royal, 9-2 Round Rabin 5-1 Red Brook Lad, 13-2 Inclination, 7-1 Summer Florier, 10-1 Solden Fam, 12-1 Glood Path, Gallaping Gurs, Sand Cay, 14-1 other

2.10 ASHURST HURDLE (4-Y-0 £2,108 2m 3i) (3) 1 8213 LESEMD OF LOVE 4F (S) B Lleweltra 11-3 ... B Johnson 76
2 1022 LORD OF LOVE 10 (S) D Williams 11-3 ... B Citriord 193
3 51 PAGASCAGC 10 (S) 61 Moore 11-3 ... P Hide 73 5-4 Pagesonic, 2-1 Lord Of Love, 9-4 Logend Of Love

2.40 ADVENTURE NOVICES CHASE (£3,488, 2m) (4) 1-7 Maşadou, 5-1 Recenciana, 25-1 Basholomew Fax, 100-1 Artic Mici

SOUTHWELL

1.20 Killamey Jazz. 1.50 Arthurs Kingdom. 2.20 Rambo Waltzer. 2.50 Bratby. 3.20 TOM TUN (nap), 3.50 Pickens, 4.20 Powder River.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW, NO ADVANTAGE

1.20 LANGFORD APPRENTICES CLAUMING STAKES (Div I £1,623 1m) (9 runners)

1 5-24 MLIARNEY JAZZ 9 BCD) H Litimozen 4 9 4 R Thomas (5) 8
2 420 BRANDON MAGIC 25 (6,5) C Nichola 6-9-1 — P Clarke 6
3 450- ANTARCKIN STORM 5 (7,5) R Face 6-4-12 P Hanagam (7) 5
5 00-6 EASTLERAN 23 (6,0.5) R Hollenberg 10 8-6 Liza Watson (7) 2
6 0-50 CHAILE? (7,0.9) F Gute 5-3
7 0-00 LET BOY 15 (6,0) F Burgoine 10-8-3 P Cleary (5) 7
8 00-0 MERCURY 30 (4,0.0) B Bagon 6-8-3 J Bodley (5) 4
9 00-0 TERRA DEL FUEGO 35 (0) H College 45 7-17; P M Learne 1 7-4 Kelamey Jazz 7-2 Chanuz, 9-2 Antascup Storm, 6-1 Brancon Magon 3-1 % (A)-aga, 18-1 LIR Boy, 20-1 Mexica /, 33-1 omest

1.50 OLD CLIPSTONE MAIDEN STAKES (£2,191, 1m, 30,(14) ...



2,20 LANGFORD APPRENTICES CLAIMING STAKES (Div IL £1.619: 1m) (9)

•	15, 61	,טוט וויין	, 10)		
					chelt. 7-9 ? P Clarks 7
2	-215	BURNING 1	3 (D,F) N (Jn	mogen 7-9-4	R Thomas (5) 2
3	00-0	MOONRAKI	NG 25 (B.CD) I Elheringeon	6-9-1 J Savage (5) 4
4	34D	LYNTON LA	£D 567 (€) E	Atoma 7-8-12	Melanie Worden (?) 1
					9-2-3 L Gueller 17:16
					. 5 Firmamore (.) 8
					, D Young (7) 3
					P Fitzsentons 5
					P Hanagan (7) 9
				•	effect Lean 10 : 625cm

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Med 5 tibiton 10 winners from 34 nations 79 4% 0 Carroll, 3 Fam 14, 21,4%, M Jonesion 42 from 212, 19 8% Mr. M Revoley, 15 horn 65, 17 6%, 1 Berton, 23 horn 141, 16 3% JOCKETS R Fig.Patick, 7 wasters from 19 rotes, 36 8%, 6 Hanners 1 Am 10, 50,6% N Day 8 from 32, 25 9%, N Polland, 6 horn 26, 23 1%, M Pobben, 17 horn 74, 16 2%.

3.10 HEDDON NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,815, 2m 3i 110yd) (6)

1 -231 DEVONSHIRE 29 (D.5) Mass Y Walhams (-11-10 R Durwoody 92 344 DUSEN'S RIDE 50 H Daly C-11-1 Mr H Fehity (7) 87 3 -000 CHIEF PREDATOR 10 (F.5) D Williams 5 10-10 R Johnson 1705 4 -550 FARRAH'S DARLING 82 P Ecres 5-10-4 D Byrne 5-5000 CHIEBMART 23 D 0'Bron 6-10-1 J Cultury 6-6 JP43 BROWNALLOW 84 Mrs B Waung 6-10-0 E Byrne 77 t-5 Description, 5-1 Outen's Ride, Normatele, 8-1 Brooksjikow, 12-1 Fariatis Dari 16-1 Chief Prediajor

3.40 FELCOURT HANDICAP CHASE (£3.539 3m) (4)

M A Fitzgerald 107 M A Regerald 107
3 4144 ANOTHER DEADLY 18 (C.D.S.) T Casts 12-10-12
T J Murphy 96
4 131U RAQIB 49 (BF.F.G.S.) P Richers 8-10-9 ___ O Gallagher (720) 10-11 Majors Legacy 5-2 Ragio 5-1 Easthorpe, 7-1 Another Deadly

4.10 HOLTYE MAIDEN HURDLE

(£1,905. 2m 110yd) (9) 1 - DPP CHURCH FIELD 64 (B) C Poptison 7-11-6 R Farrard — 2 22 EDAN HEIGHTS 45 I Case, 7-11-6 W Marston 9-1 12/0 GET 100E 22 E Wheeler 6-11-6 C Webb 9-1 12/0 GUIDO 94 (G) lebus V Milliams 8-11-6 W Welliamson 47-5 24 FERIOS FATAL 18 (BF) M Page 9-11-5 A P McCov (RES 7-1 1-6 PSOL LORIN EGROSS SSSP F Eccles 7-11-6 W R R Brasson 9-1 20 Storme 9-1 20 Stor

2-1 Herot Fatal, 9-4 Edan Heignis, 3-1 Eko Dezuvátr. 7-1 Westheld Cockery, 8-7 Cui do 50-1 Church Field Lord Egross, Kard, 66-1 Get Tough 4.40 H.B.L.B. EDENBRIDGE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,192, 2m 3l 110yd) (5)

1 1234 TICLEPTY'S GRT 4 (BF.CD.F.C.S) C L Moore 9-12-0

M Batchelor (5) 1C3
2 D311 SHOOPK 7 (C.S) S Dow 9-11-12 (Bea 1 . M A Fitzgrand 56
3 3113 MUSICAL SLING 27 (G.S) F Honto: 6-11-9 . R Durrectory 101
4 -404 FOUNTAIN 8D 49 (6) R Deep 7-10-0 ... Mr N Febby (7) 1275
5-00 FOUNTAIN 8D 49 (6) R Deep 7-10-0 ... C Lievetyn 104 7 4 Tratery's Gift 9-4 Musical Slang, Shoolic 8-1 Fountian 3rd, 50-1 Equit, 5 Daving

2.50 KELHAM HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £2.775 1m) (10)

1 230- JAMES DEE 142 A Janus 9-7
2 176- VALE OF LEVEN 80 (BF.C.S.) F Ryan 9-2
3 6-51 BAUBOO GARDEN 4 (B.C.D.) G Chung 9-0 (624) M Tebbunt 1
4 00-6 SWEFT COMPHANCE 13 (S.P. Farbergoare 8-11 N POLATA (G. 7
5 00-1 RAYWARE BOY 32 (B.C.D.) D Share 8-12
- 1 Jumn 9
6 6-1 PIPTS BRAKE 7 (D.) M Polipisco 2-13 (644)
- 20-2 (NATHAN'S HERO 32 (BF.) 4 Hollinchead 9-10 Dean McLeown 5
8 00-0 ABLE PETE 23 (L.GOGIOW 8-6
9 0-15 BRATBY 1 (D.B.) M Jeel 7-10
- A Beech (7) 4
10 0-34 MISS DOCOYBUSANESS 16 C Trompo 7-10
- P Doc (5) 3 11.4 Budby 7-2 Reviews Boy 5-1 Pois Buse 7-1 Vale Of Leven 3-1 Santha Rugen 10-1 Mattern (Hotz Doctypeaness 12-1 titles

3.20 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER CHALLENGE SE-RIES HANDICAP (FINAL) (£9,849: 61) (16)

1 DS-0 DOUBLE-0 18 (B,CD) W Janes 5-16-0 D McGaffin (7), 5 2 2-05 20GGYS DANCER 18 (CD,F G) E Alsten 8-9-12 J Ourm 13 3 5111 TANNUB 3 (CD,F,GS) F Columna 9-12 (6-7) S Copp 15, 9 4 Mod Best OUES 11 (6) E Buse 4-9-9 M Cattar 15, 7 5 2302 MALLIA 4 (B,CD,F,ES) T Remon 6-5-9 C Posts 6 4-214 E TON LEDGER 4 (V CD,F) Ms H Mscaule, 10-3-9 (fc.) P McCabe 10 2-25 E D MAC DE MACADE 10 3-9 (fc.) 7 32-5 ELLWAY PRINCE 28 (V.D.) Mr. N. Accaule, 4-9-8

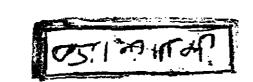
5-1 Otaci. 7-1 Euro Femente. Tom Tun 8-1 Pleadint, Julin Boarder Maria. 16-1 Tag.; se Alagat. 12-1 Mattis. Tabilist, Edway Prince. Zerger, Contin. 14-1 otaci.

3.50 NEW BALDERTON STAKES (\$1,931, 1m 3f) (16)

3 | Frotein: 9-2 Sho Ju; 8-1 Brockers Line Joseph's Wife, Forme Cookie Bennic. Own 12-1 Hyperico 14-1 after:

4.20 MANSFIELD HANDICAP (\$2.866: 1m 41) (8)

1) -3 Pitais 4-1 Poedis River 9-2 Falehalistan No Crives No News, 8-1 Lia Janeer Carol Again 14-1 Over To vice Surmernit Special



FOOTBALL: £3.5 MILLION CROATIA INTERNATIONAL CAN MAKE IT FOURTH TIME LUCKY FOR NEWCASTLE IN TRANSFER MARKET

Gullit swoops for magpie lover Maric

FOR a man who once described himself as a "citizen of the world." Roud Gullit was putting his theory into practice last night, flying from Eastern Europe to Spain to complete the estimated E3.5 million signing of Sil-vio Maric, the Croada Zagreb midfield player.

Gullit, the Newcastle United manager, and Freddy Shepherd, the club chairman, emerged from negotiations with Zagreb officials yesterday having agreed a fee for the Croatia international. They were understood to have travelled on to La Manga last night, where Zagreb's firstlearn squad are on a winter break.

"I'm happy about this." Maric, 23, who played a bit-part role in his country's run to third place in the

There can no

longer be any

doubts as to

Dwight Yorke's

value, says

Kevin McCarra

drop their chins on their

chests while they loll on the

substitutes' bench, but Man-

chester United will not permit

there. Then again, the for-

ward never allows the opposi-

tion any respite either. When

fit, he has been deemed indis-

pensable and chosen to start

every FA Carling Premiership

match since signing for the club from Aston Villa last

August.

He is the still point in a ro-

tating selection policy. Expect defenders to grimace in disa-

greement with the idea that Yorke is static in any other re-

gard. His roaming is always

designed to take him, by devi-

ous routes, to the same desti-

nation. The Tobagan has

scored 13 times for United in

the Premiership already, making it possible that he will be-

come the first player at Old Trafford since Brian McClair

o rest for the good.

are allowed to

World Cup last summer, said. "I must talk with Ruud Gullit and Newcastle about my personal contract. but the important thing is that Newcastle and Croatia Zagreb have made a deal." While the player's fa-ther said that his son would not arrive on Tyneside until after the Croatia international match with Denmark next Wednesday, Newcastle officials were hoping to persuade Maric to pay a fleeting visit to Newcastle within the next 24 hours.

Their desire is to avoid a repeat of recent mishaps in the transfer mar-ket. Taribo West and Dion Dublin have both rejected moves to Newcastle, while Ibrahim Ba, the Internazionale and France midfield player, failed a medical last month. There is

By George Caulkin and Stephen Wood

little doubt, however, that Maric is keen to sign for Gullit. He played at St James' Park during Newcastle's 4-3 aggregate victory over Zagreb in the second qualifying round of the European Cup last season and, on hearing of Newcastle's interest late last week, wore a black and white

shirt in training, "My favourite bird is the magpie," he said. Blackburn Rovers believe that they did everything to persuade Tim Sherwood to stay, but that was not the version of the transfer saga emanating from the midfield player yesterday after he had completed his move to Tottenham Hotspur. Sherwood, who had been unhap-

py with life at Blackburn for the past few months, underwent extensive contract negotiations with the club with a view to securing a lucrative extension. It was understood that he rejected the improved offers, but he has since accused Blackburn of foreing him out. They accepted the bid from Spurs last Monday, a day before I was due to have more talks about a new contract with the club." Sherwood said. "When you realise your club has accepted an offer from another club, you've got no option but to leave. Once I knew about Tot-

tenham's offer for me, there was no doubt I would sign for them." The fee is believed to be around

£4 million and Sherwood has signed a contract that will keep him at White Hart Lane for the next four vears. Sherwood, 30. was at Blackburn for seven years and was an integral part of the side, managed by Kenny Dalglish, that won the FA Carling Premiership title in 1995.

Born in St Albans, Sherwood still owns a house in the South East. but he said: "It's Tottenham that appeals to me, not the fact that I live in the area. It was difficult to leave Blackburn, but everyone's time comes to an end. When Brian Kidd came in as manager, he perhaps decided that it was right for me to go."

George Graham, the Tottenham manager, said: "Tim is a quality player who can help our midfield

compete with the best teams in the

Stan Collymore, the Aston Villa forward, is expected to leave the clinic today where he has been receiving treatment for stress for the past week and could be available for Villa's home league game against Blackburn tomorrow. Liverpool are not expected to follow-up their interest in David Weir, the Heart of Midlothian centre back.

Bolton Wanderers have agreed to sell Arnar Gunnlaugsson, their transfer-listed Iceland striker, to Leicester City for £2 million. Gunnlaugsson, 25, who signed for Bolton from IA Akranes in July 1997 for £100,000, will talk over personal

terms at Filbert Street today. 'He is proving more than

Graham Taylor during an exhibition match on a Villa close season tour to the Caribbean. In common with most holiday souvenirs, he did not look quite so good when brought back to drizzly Britain. When Ron Atkinson was in charge, Dalian Atkinson and Dean Saunders were the preferred

is background and the evidence of one tabloid report this season makes it tempting to portray Yorke in stereotype as a calyp-so hedonist — but his confidence needed to be nurtured and it was under Brian Little that Yorke finally excelled at Villa Park. Now, his mobility. touch and poise are brought to bear unwaveringly. When Ryan Giggs suffered the hamstring injury against Derby that may keep him out of the European Cup quarter-final with Internazionale next month, there was relief that

pects that his poor, maltreated knees will have healed by the time of that fixture, leaving him in prime condition to be. as he put it, "the real Ronaldo. the one everyone knows". Even so, the Brazilian may find himself outdone by the revelatory Yorke.

and screamed, was generally undisciplined, something of a

rogue. That was not the

Dennis Wise I knew and I

wanted the player to emerge

and to achieve."

Vialli is sticking by his player, convinced that he is mend-

the United supporters

bargained for'

will now lie in state in Tiananmen Square. Ridicule is tempting, yet Docherty was giving only a gausiy version of a judgment made by several others. Yorke was a prodigy whose gifts were muffled for too

long. He was an extraordinary

the most devastating figure of all is in husky health.

The Italian club's totem ex-

RUGBY LEAGUE Low-key start for league with high ideas

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

MODESTY no longer be-comes sport. The first division is now the Premiership - officially, the Northern Ford Premiership. At the present rate of progress, the Super League will become the Hyper

League, and so on. The self-styled Premiership. not to be confused with the FA Carling Premiership. Allied Dunbar Premiership or the top-eight competition discard-ed by rugby league itself two years ago, is viewed by those clubs outside the elite as neces-

sary window-dressing.
The erstwhile first and secand division clubs begin their season in a single 18-team competition on Sunday, four weeks before the Super League starts, still without television coverage, but, importantly, with a modest but valuable £100,000 sponsorship by northern Ford dealers. Bob McDermott, the chair-

man of the itself outdated First Division Clubs Association. said: "Super League is seen as the premier competition, but there are hundreds of other people playing at amateur and professional level and we are the best of the rest."

Research will concentrate on whether the Premiership should revert to a winter season. Should that prove attractive to television. McDermott said it would be an incentive to switch back. A frittering away of £10.8 million, which represents two seasons' money after the smaller clubs were bought out of the Super League contract last year, would place the futures of several at risk.

With the arrival of sponsors the successful introduction of top-five play-offs last year and a keener sense of open competi-tion this season, the mood is unbeat, Hull Kingston Rovers start as favourites, but Dewsbury. Hunslet and Widnes are all dark horses.

SQUASH

Parke resists challenge from old foe

SIMON PARKE, the defending champion, left the Northern Club in Didsbury yesterday sure of his quarter-final place in the Business Pages national championships at the Manchester Velodrome today (Colin McQuillan writes). Half an hour earlier, the Nottingham-based 26-year-old had stood two games down to David Campion, the unranked coach from Queens

Sports Club in Halifax. Parke won 7-15, 9-15, 15-6, 15-4. 15-5 in 65 minutes to reach a quarter-final against yet Marcus Berrett, 23, another Yorkshireman, whom he defeated in straight games at the same stage last year but who has improved enough to put out Nick Taylor, the No 4 seed, 13-15, 9-15, 15-9, 15-3, 15-5

Parke and Campion shared sparkling junior careers. While Parke went on to become a touring professional, Campion broke down with groin problems that still inhibit his action.

In June, Campion will marry Cassandra Jackman, the top seed in the women's championship, who eased through the first round yesterday 3-9, 9-0. 9-6, 9-0 against Janie Thacker.

sions when others Dwight Yorke to take his ease 1987-88 1989.99 Mark Hughes 1989-90 1990-91 1991-92 McClair 15 1992-93 1993-94 Andrei Ka 1995-96 Cantona 1996-97 **Ole Gunnar So** to score 20 league goals in a 1997-98 Andy Cole 13 so fai 1998-99 Dwight Yorke Before McClair, left, scored 24 goals in 87-88, the previous United player to break the 20 league goals barrier was George Best, right, with 28 in 1967-68

Yorke has begun to strike with the authority of a man declaring his value to the world. Sleekness of control and a low finish, for his seventh goal in five appearances, ensured that United defeated Derby

County 1-0 on Wednesday, when Andy Cole, his customary ally, was not taking part.
Yorke is particularly formidable because of a new, assured versatility. How are centre backs to deal with a person who gives them the slip by stepping out of character? Last Sunday, Yorke, who is all finesse, converted himself into an aggressive target man

when he climbed to tuck home the header in the last minute that defeated Charlton Athletic. Opponents are failing to take his measure and he is also proving more than the United supporters bargained for. Many believed the price excessive when Alex Ferguson agreed a £12.5 million

fee with Aston Villa. The scale of the cost was the measure of the manager's faith. Ferguson has a very Scottish sense that there is self-delusion at the heart of extravagance and. when signings were balanced against sales, it emerges that he spent only £1 million a season in his first 11 years at Old

Trafford. Last spring, according to Martin Edwards, the club chairman, it was Ferguson's decision not to buy Marcelo Salas, the Chile forward who eventually moved to Lazio for £13.5 million.

When the deal for Yorke became possible, there were, by contrast, no inhibitions. In ad-

man. Ferguson had also picked the right moment to acquire him. When Eric Cantona arrived at Old Trafford, he gave the place a haughty look, as if determining whether it was worthy of him. Yorke is too merry for disdainful aloofness, but he, too, regards the

dition to identifying the right

arena with approval rather than trepidation. It is his prop-He was not always so es-

teemed."If Yorke is a first division footballer, my name is Mao Tse Tung," Tommy Do-cherty once said. Presumably, the former United manager. when he eventually passes on,

Wise: sent off four times already this season

7

Wise sees stock fall after going into red again

AFTER the fouls, the trips, the swipes and the back-chat, the fourth dismissal of Dennis Wise's season came after a relatively trivial offence, but it highlighted signs that the bel-ligerent midfield player's an-tics are beginning to try the pa-tience of his Chelsea team-

Wise was guilty of twice handling the ball during his side's 4-2 defeat of Oxford United in their FA Cup fourth-round replay at Stamford Bridge on

Interest

rate

change

Allied Irish Bank (GB) announces that

with effect from close of business on

4 February 1999 its Base Rate was

Wednesday night. One more dismissal and Wise will equal the five red cards shown in a season to Dave Caldwell. while he was playing for Chesterfield and Torquay United 11

years ago. His latest misdemeanour will lift his leave of absence from the Chelsea team since last August to 14 matches - a statistic not appreciated by his colleagues. "I could not believe he did it," Dan Petrescu, the Romania international, said of Wise's second handball. "Even if it was going in. it didn't really matter. We were 4-1 up with 15 minutes to go. All the lads were disappointed, even though we had won the game.

George Caulkin on the Chelsea captain's latest act of indiscipline

against Nottingham Forest, Liverpool, Middlesbrough Liverpool, and West Ham United, which, given the long-term injuries suffered by Pierluigi Ca-siraghi and Gustavo Poyet, the departure of Brian Laudrup and Tore Andre Flo's unavailability at present, can only further disrupt the club's challenge for the FA Carling Premiership.

The question, therefore, is why? Why do Chelsea persist with a player whose undoubt-

now miss important fixtures transformed into aggression. whose gifts are often overshad-owed by his attitude? Is this the insignia of a talent on the wane, a man whose legs can no longer keep pace with his brain, whose importance to his team is far less weighty than his reputation?

> The answers tend to be provided when it matters most, by commanding individual per-formances in the Coca-Cola and Cup Winners Cup finals last season, and by those who matter most — by Gianluca Vialli, the Chelsea player-man

ager, and Ruud Gullit, Vialli's kicked opponents, shouted predecessor.

The manner of Wise's dismissal on Wednesday almost provided grounds for celebration for Vialli, who seemed to seize upon it as conclusive evidence of the player's "improv-ing" behaviour. "I will defend him all the time." Vialli said. "He feels very frustrated because he likes to play football and he doesn't want to be branded someone who can't play all season."

In his autobiography, Gullit said: "I was convinced there was much more to Dennis as a player than his reputation at the time would lead you to believe. He was always labelled a tearaway, someone who

ing his ways. Of his captain's five bookings this season, the last came five weeks earlier. His previous sending-off came away to Everton at the start of December - his first match after a four-game suspension. We had thought, perhaps, that his angelic demeanour heralded a change. Like a leopard bearing stripes, the theory was

Bowyer earns new **England chance** PETER TAYLOR, the Eng-

land Under-21 coach, has given Lee Bowyer, the Leeds United midfield player, the chance to revive his international career after their dispute over his absence from the Toulon tournament last summer. Taylor was upset when

there was a rift between him-

self and Andy Goram, the

Motherwell goalkeeper, who has accepted Brown's invita-

tion to reverse his decision to

decreased from 6.00% to 5.50% pa. Bowyer chose to go on holiday rather than play in France. Bowyer has not fea-Albed Irish Bank (GB) tured in the squad this season. Bankcentre, Belmont P.oad but now Taylor has given him Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 1SA. a reprieve for the match Telephone: (#1895) 272222 against France next Tuesday after a series of impressive per-

formances for Leeds. "I had a few words with Lee because I wanted him to go to Toulon," Taylor said. "I was disappointed over that, but Lee is playing well enough to be given another chance." Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, denied yesterday

ing camp, but has impressed Brown since his comeback to club football at Fir Park last month. Brown said: "There was never any acrimony on my part because I accepted his reasons for leaving us." Neville Southall, the former Everion goalkeeper, is likely

to be a substitute for Huddersfield Town in their FA Cup fifth-round tie against Derby County on February 13. Southall. 40. who is also the goal-keeping coach at Huddersfield on a non-contract basis. has been playing for Torquay United while Ken Veysey, the first-choice goalkeeper, has been recovering from injury. Sampdoria have brought

retire from international foot-80 90 Hard Open Vaned ball on the eve of France 98. Goram, 34. walked out of Open Open Open the Scotland World Cup train-133 177 Good Open Powder Cloud Lake Louise Prentor
Alpe d'Huez
Avonaz
Floine
La Plagne
Le Tania
Les Arcs
Megève
Méribel
Tignes
Vei d'Isère
instr 10 220 Good Good Varied 100 200 Good Open Verled 100 200 Good Open Verled 117 220 Good Open Varied 117 220 Good Open Varied 105 240 Good Hard Varied Cortina Norway Geilo 60 180 Good Open Varied 90 170 Good Open Varied 90 170 Good Open Varied 100 180 Good Open Varied 50 105 Good Open Varied 50 105 Feir Hard Varied 55 705 Good Open Varied 70 180 Good Open Varied 70 180 Good Open Varied Open Varied 70 180 Good Open Varied 70 180 Good Open Varied Open Varied 70 180 Good Open Varied Open Varied 70 180 Good Open Varied Open Open Open Open O Crans Montana Davos Grindelwald 29/1 3/2 3/2 30/1 29/1 29/1 29/1 29/1 back Luciano Spalletti as coach just six weeks after dis-100 125 Good Open Varied Cloud 155 180 Good Open Powder Cloud missing him to make way for David Platt. the former England midfield player, who left the club on Tuesday.

Runs to Resort Off/p 3/2

SNOW REPORTS

The COPERATIVE BANK

BASE RATE CHANGE

With effect from close of business on Thursday 4th February 1999, Co-operative Bank Base Rate changes from 6.00% p.a. to 5.50% p.a.

The Co-operative Bank p.l.c., PO Box 101, 1 Balloon St., Manchester M60 4EP. Tel: 0161 832 3456

3) - 25 May - 3

Britain's best business bank "In such of the Las three surveys by the Forum of Private Business

Many freely freely early in a realy many west graph factor. In APII Groups (CDF p). (a should control
ADIA Steels (State, p)) . In comparison of "Construct Install I regarded (Affice 4 Species)" option Bull
Supervisor (States of H.)

Scotland put faith in Townsend

By Mark Souster and David Hands

SCOTLAND have made six changes to the team that lost to South Africa in the autumn for their opening Five Nations Championship international against Wales tomorrow at Murrayfield.

anck

In the absence of Bryan Redpath, who is injured, Gary Armstrong returns in an untried half-back partnership with Duncan Hodge. Elsewhere in the backs. Glenn Metcalfe has recovered from a shoulder injury to regain the full back berth from Derrick Lee. Kenny Logan comes in on the left wing, with Cammy Murray switching to the right in place of Alan Tait and, whether he likes it or not, Gregor Townsend finds himself back at outside centre. The only change in the pack sees Martyn Leslie at open-side flanker.

Townsend's return in the starting line-up generated most discussion at the team announcement yesterday. The player himself has made it plain that he would rather

Will Carling, the former England captain, will be on the Harlequins replacements bench for the Allied Dunbar Premiership match with Leicester at the Stoop Memorial Ground tomorrow. Carling announced his return to club rugby on Tuesday

play anywhere else, but Jim Telfer, the Scotland coach, is not alone in thinking that the Brive player is at his most effective in the No 13 jersey. Townsend, who can cover fly half and full back, where he came on as replacement for Lee against South Africa, replaces Jamie Mayer, who is injured, but, according to Telfer, he may have started as of right. Finding a place for the mercurial Townsend has invariably provoked a dilemma as to where to

play him. Martyn Leslie teams up with his brother John, who is at inside centre. Both brothers have made a significant impression since arriving from New Zealand in the autumn. 'They are ingrained in what I call top-class rugby," Telfer said. "No situation is new to them. Both are very modest and unassuming

France arrived in Dublin yesterday in pursuit of an unprecedented

third successive grand slam in the championship yet still with queries surrounding the make-up of the XV to play Ireland tomorrow. In addition, they had to change their back row less than 24 hours after confirming a squad in which Marc Lièvremont was due to play blindside flanker.

The Stade Français player strained a hamstring in training at Clairfontaine on Wednesday and withdrew, depriving Jean-Claude Skrela, the coach, of the chance to regroup his favoured back row of the Lievremont brothers and Olivier Magne. That area, though, is not significantly weakened by the addition of Philippe Benetton, the experienced Agen flanker.

It will be Emil Ntamack's first championship game since he played against Ireland two years ago. in the unfamiliar position of full back. Ntamack shrugs that off: his international recognition has been on the wing, he is playing for Toulouse at centre this season but full back is the position in which he played for five years as a junior. Ireland are clearly wary of Ntamack: "French teams have al-

ways had individual brilliance and Ntamack fits into that category," Donal Lenihan, the Ireland manager, said. "If you give them any space, they can be devastating. It is essential that we perform to the maximum of our ability." The French federation is in the

process of negotiating a new television contract lasting up to 2003, a situation of which England will be interested to learn more when their leading administrators meet their French counterparts next Wednesday. The federation expects to reach agreement by April over an issue which, in principle, cost England a place (briefly) in the championship itself and remains a bone of contention with their home union

DAT LIBERS

SCOTLAND: G Mercaille (Glasgow Calectonans),
C A Murray (Edinburgh Reners), G P J
Townseend (Brive), J A Lesille (Glasgow Calectonians), K M Logan (Waspor); D W Hodge (Edinburgh Reners), G Armetrong (Newcastle Febone, captan); T J Smith (Clasgow Calectorins), G C Buttoch (Glasgow Calectorians), G P Burnett (London Scotlari), S Murrary (Bectlord), G W Welf (Newcastle Febone), B Watton (Newcastle Febone), E W Peters (Bath), Replayerenthe: S L Longstatt (Glasgow Calectonians); A V Talt (Edinburgh Revers), I Fettiley (Edinburgh Revers), A C Powninsy (North-impton), S B Grimes (Glasgow Calectonians), D I



Silent warrior seeking to make up for lost time

Tom Smith, who

known, but returned a conquering

hero with offers flooding in from

English clubs, but also, alas, with

The twisting and turning that he

had to endure against bigger. but

less technically adept South Afri-cans and his determination to ig-nore pain resulted in a serious

groin injury that put his interna-tional career on hold for 14 months.

The original diagnosis was rest,

which failed to solve the problem,

but an operation last February did

the trick. The match against the

New Zealand Maoris marked his

return to Scotland colours and his

rehabilitation was completed against South Africa and in wins

in World Cup qualifying matches

over Spain and Portugal. "I feel as

good as I have ever been," Smith,

who is 5ft 10in and 164st, said.

his body in pieces.

better would assume that Tom Smith had taken a vow of silence — perhaps he was a Trappist monk in a former existence. The abiding image of the Scotland loose-head prop on tour in New Zealand in 1996 and with the British Isles a year later is of a solitary individual at his happiest immersed in the latest Tom Clancy novel, or simply taking a stroll away from the claustrophobic envi-

rons of the team hotel. It does not do a man who plays in his position any harm to perpetuate the impression of the strong, silent type, for whom actions speak louder than words. He is aware of his reputation. "Let's just say I am not unhappy with my own compa-

ny," he says. But to stereotype him as a dourloner would be to do the 27-year-old an injustice. Smith has a dry sense of humour and although he choses his words sparingly, they all count. He possesses that inner drive, mental toughness and determination that separates the promising from the fulfilled.

Not that Smith is yet totally fulfilled. Given his stature, it is surprising that he has won only four caps for Scotland and never played against Wales, a situation that will be redressed tomorrow at Murray-

Mark Souster on Naturally, he does not share assumptions that Scotland are destined for the wooden spoon. "Compared with two years ago, there is a lot of character in the squad and an underlying confidence." Smith faces Wales for the said. "You are also encouraged to first time tomorrow have your say, whether you have one cap or 50. This is about giving players responsibility. Jim Telfer, the Scotland coach] tells us: 'More field. His opponent will be Dai Young, a colleague on the British Isles tour in 1997 — an expedition on which Smith departed an unresponsibility means more account-ability. It is all that players want. We are beginning to pull in the

same direction." Smith, born in London, began playing mini-rugby with London Welsh before his Scottish mother sent him to Rannoch School in Perthshire. From there, he moved to college in Dundee and a place in the Dundee High School Former Pupils side, then the North and Midlands district.

In between, he won representative honours for Scottish Schools and Scotland Under-2i then made his full debut in 1997 in the Five Nations Championship against England. His performance at Twicken-ham reinforced Telfer's belief that Scotland had unearthed a gem.

"He is a very determined young man." Telfer who was instrumen tal in ensuring he was selected for the Lions, said. "He is dynamic but is nowhere near his full potential."

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

English disdain only rubs salt into old wounds

GERALD DAVIES

brate the start of the Five Nations Cham pionship and luxuriate in the thoughts of the many pleasures that lie ahead. or merely regret that it is but a brief hiatus, a temporary truce before the

sphere's rugby problems re-emerge? Many an enemy has been made of late and England and its member williams. They are yellams. They are seen to be behaving

on the basis of sell interest and somewhere short of a sense of honour. The evidence, such as it is, lies on four froms.

It began with the television contract of two years ago. England's representatives chose to cut a deal privately and unilaterally when, to all intents and purposes, they had agreed to act collectively as part of a

At the same time - and they have still nor gone away — the hawks at Twickenham were pre-pared to acknowledge that, for their purposes, they had outgrown the Five Nations Championship. They would willingly sacrifice the tournament and seek to encourage a competition of their own devised to involve five other nations, which in-cluded themselves, France and the three southern-hemisphere countries. Despite all the revenue, popularity and the good that the Five Nations Championship does for the game as a whole, England would

happily jettison the tournament. Next, the English clubs chose to eschew the European Cup because they did not get what they wanted. which was for the competition to be run entirely in their favour. There may be a sound case for all clubs to have more of a say in the destiny of the tournament, but not for it to be dominated by the members of one union, or even two.

Then, this week, England gave Wales such a meagre complement of teams for a cross-border competition that the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) saw it as no more than an enhanced English league. Furthermore, since control of the league was a concept that England were unwilling to share, the WRU concluded that the proposal presented no proper choice at all. The idea, such as it was, had narrowed to an Anglo-Weish league. overwhelmingly English, while the

BY RAYMOND KEENE

I conclude my Wijk aan Zee

coverage with two victories by

third-placed Vladimir Kram-

nik. Since the Russian grand-

master's match loss to Alexei

seems to have gone out of

Kramnik's play. Nevertheless.

his performance at Wijk aan

Zee was excellent and included

a revenge win against Shirov.

Grunfeld Defence

White: Vladimir Kramnik

Black: Alexei Shirov

Wijk aan Zee 1999

Bronze medal

Scottish clubs, also in need of enhanced competition, were ignored.

Each of these points could be a case for length argument, but, taken onllectively, it is a cause for disquiet, even offence, that one union and its members would appear to pursue such tactics and their own agenda at the expense of others. Many years ago, when a brighter rug-

by light seemed to gleam in Wales.

Rugby Commentary

England's fortunes could hardly be said to be of the kind to be sung to the world. In 30 seasons between 1960 and 1990. Wales won 21 fixtures to England's six, with four drawn. The past may be a foreign country, but it should not be ignored in helping to shape the future.

At any rate, in those days it was almost customary for the WRU president, in his after-match speech when Wales had beaten England at Cardiff Arms Park, to ask his visitors not to worry. "We will continue to include you on our fixture list in the future," he would say. It was a joke. It may not have been entirely in the best of tastes. since it did not take into account the sensitivity that lay behind dent-ed pride. Nonetheless, it was meant to be funny.

After a decade of English rugby supremacy in Europe, there are those, in this comparatively brief span, who clearly question the present value of a fixture list that in-cludes Wales. Ireland and Scorland. Thereby, the whole idea of the Five Nations Championship has been put in doubt. Except that this is no longer a joke. This has been. remarkably, a serious contention, disdainful in its presumption. Instead of attempting to seek a remedy for the lack of competition in the tournament, there are those who wish to destroy it.

If some do not understand why it is that the Celtic nations are up in arms, or why it is that England are so often viewed with a certain detachment, the present dilemmas might help to clear the position. It would be unwise for England, complacently, to see others wanting to beat them as a compliment nor is that desire borne out of any sense of envy or inferiority. Whatever the old grievances were, they are now

NEENE on CHESS

International matches Zimbabwe A v England A HARARE (third day of five): Zimbabwe A have scored 147 for seven wickets agains

England A

ZIMBABWE At First Innings

T N Madondo c Read b Behs

6 Wishart Int wicker b Thomas

5 J Whiteld c Swarm b Betts

24

D P Vilipon c Read b Thomas

6 S V Carlsia not out

10 J R Campbell c Swarm b Thomas

3 A M Bigmaut c Read b Thomas

6 B C Strang c Finitiot b Thomas

23

A R Whitell not out

9

Extras (b 5 . nb 11)

17

Total (7 whits)

147 5-58, 6-69, 7-114, BOWLING Betts 18-4-61-2, Flintoff 12-5-24-0; Thomas 17-2-3-48-5, Cosker

Umpres: I D Robinson and K C Barbour. New Zealand Under-19 v England Under-19 NEW PLYMOUTH (third day of four): New Zeoland Under-19, with all second-innings wickers in hand, need 344 runs to best England Under-19

England Under-19
ENGLAND UNDER-18: First hintings 285
(R K J Dawson 67: R J Logen 63, I N Flanagan 53, H Shaw 5-49).
Second Innings

*M A Gough c England b Mantin. 43
I N Flanagan b Gallespie. 12
I R Bet nut out. 91
M A Carberry c Moditashan b Hendry 6
I K Maunders Gallespie b Hendry 6
I K J Dawson c Morticah b Martin 12
M P Bulbeck c Pation b Martin 51
J H Tucker C Gallespie b Hendry 4
R J Logan b Mann 6
G R Bridge st McGlashan b Martin. 0
1 M A Wallace not out 14
Erress (b 15, b 10, w 4) 289

m

FOR THE RECORD FALL OF WICKETS: 1-28, 2-139, 3-179, 4-198, 5-213, 5-215, 7-225, 8-236, 9-242, 9-20M,BMS Shaw 12-3-42-0; Franklin 7-1-19-0; Gillespie 7-1-18-1. Martin 40.1-18-75-5; Jansen 24-8-69-0; Hendry 17-3-41-3 NEW ZEALAND UNDER-18: First Innings

Pappa not out.

Total (no wkt) 3 BOWLING: Bulbeck 4-1-14-0, Logar 4-0-7-0; Bridge 1-0-1-0, Dawson 1-0-4-0 Umoves; R.J. Pilcam and M. McLean. BASKETBALL BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Manchester 87 Ed-inburgh 65; Tharnes Valley 94 Derby 79; Worthing 81 London 94.

BOWLS WARtilia, Sydney: International match: England 2 Australia 1 (England won sense

LIANGLILE weeks nearment Parts round J Greenstede (Wales) bit M King (Eng) 2-7. 7-8, 7-4, N Booth (Ire) bit G Robertson (Soci) 7-2, 7-5 Quarter-Sinales J Forsy (Wales) bit J Price (Wales) 7-5, 7-6. G Herrow (Eng) bit H Duff (Soci) 7-3, 5-7, 7-1. **FOOTBALL**

Wednesday's late results Wednesday's later results

A Odord 2 (Chelsea away to Sheffield
Wednesday); Huddersfield 2 Wredner 1
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Manchester United 1 Deby County 0
TENMENT'S SCOTTISH CUP: Third round: Ctydabank 1 Ross County 1.
FA TROPHY: Third-round replay:
Raunds 7 0 Weston-super-Mare 1.
RYMANN LEAGUE: Second division: Harlow 1 Windsor and Eton 1.

ICE HUCKEY SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: London Knights 2 Nottingham Penthers 3 (CIT), Shef-feld Steelers 6 Manchester Sorm 5 (CIT), Newcaster Filterfungs 2 Cardiff Dokts 5 (CIT); Newcaster Filterfungs 2 Cardiff Dokts 5 NATIONAL LEAGUE: (NaTL): Buffalo 3 National 5 Cardina 1 New Jarsey 4; Montreal 2 Vanocuver 1. Washington 10 Tampa Bay 1, Detroit 5 New York Islanders 1; Pionde 5 Toronto 2. Edmonton 2 Ottawa 2; Anaherm 3 Chicago 0

RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB MATCH: Halfax 16 Wigan 18

RUGBY UNION WELSH LEAGUE: First division: Mentry 18 Tondu 18 CLUB MATCH: Cambridge University 30

VAIL, Colorado: World ctramplonships: Women: Super-giant statom: 1. A Mess-ntzer (Austra) 1mm 20.53esc; 2. R Goet-schi (Austra) 1.20.56, 3. M Dortmester (Aus-tra) 1:20.74

MANCHESTER: Nextornal chemplonshipe: Merr. First round: M Creioner
(Jines) to 8 Gener (Surey) 15-13, 4-15.
16-17, 15-13, 15-9, T Gener (Sussed bt J
Dale Nioritumbria) 15-6, 15-4, 15-13, 8-15.
Meads (Bens) bt P Lord (Creshne) 15-11,
15-9, 15-9, C Wedler (Essed) bt N Lugan
(Bucks) 15-12, 15-5, 15-7, M Cams (Oran)
bt B Bar (Sudok) 13-15, 15-6, 15-5, 15-2, J
Plussel (Nem) bt C Torninson (Kerl) 15-12,
17-14, 13-15, 15-14; J Weilings (Susses) bt D
Harris (Essed) 14-17, 2-6, rel. J What (Scot)
bt L Drew (Essed) 12-15, 9-15, 15-9, 15-3,
15-6; P Hargrawe (Derbys) bt D Ryen (fre)
7-15, 10-15, 15-12, 15-12, 15-11, P Johnson
(Kerl) bt C Leach (Warnets) 15-10, 15-5,
15-9 Second round: S Parke (Yorks) bt D
Campson (Yorks) 7-15, 9-15, 15-6, 15-4, 15-5,
M Berrett (Yorks) bt N Taylor (Lencs) 13-15,
9-15, 16-9, 15-3, 15-5, L Beachill (Yorko) bt D
Matthew (Yorks) 15-11, 15-9, 15-12, C heloner bt (Samer 15-8, 7-15, 15-12, 15-10, Womeet First toward: C Jackman (Nortok) bt J
Thacker (Yorks) 3-8, 9-0, 9-8, 9-0, S Brind
(Verti) bt V Bounghi (Larcs) 9-1, 8-9, 2-9,
9-2, 9-4, 9-0; F Geaves (Stoucs) bt P
Nichol (Cumbrie) 9-1, 9-5, 10-8 TENNIS

MARSEILLES OPEN: First round: Y Kafenikov (Russ) bt S Schaken (Hol) 6-3, 6-2, A DI Pescusie (Fi) bt J Gimeliob (US) 4-8, 6-1, 8-4, Sec. not round: D'Ozz (II) bt G Racux (Fi) 4-8, 8-4, 8-4, 9 Federar (Switz) bt J Golmand (Fi) 5-7, 7-6, 7-5, F Sandor (Fi) bt DI Pasquale 5-1, 6-3, M Rosset (Switz) bt K Carlson (Den) 6-3, 8-2. TOKYO: Pan-Pacific Opere Second round: J Novotra (Cz) bt M de Swardt (SA) 6-2, 8-2, A Coetzer (SA) bt E Calleris (Be) 2-6, 6-1, 7-5, L Dewenport (US) bt M J Fernandez (US) 6-4, 8-4, A Koumskova (Fluss) bt C Block (Zm) 6-2, 8-3, S Grad (Ger) bt E Likhousseva (Fluss) 4-6, 7-6, 6-2, N Zvereva (Bela) bt L Raymond (US) 8-3, 6-2

SPORT IN BRIEF

will return to competition after a 31/2-month absence by trying to win back the men's singles title at the Liverpool Victoria national championships. which start in Haywards Heath today. The former

champion had considered leaving the game after an eight-week suspension for insulting officials and general misbehaviour at the Dutch Open. Knowles, the No 3

seed, has good draw, which may help him to forget the income, said to be around £2,000, that he lost as a result of the ban. **BOWLS:** Jonathan Forey

continued his winning streak at Lianelli yesterday when he defeated John Price, the defending champion, 7-5, 7-6 in the quarter-finals of the Golden Charter Welsh Masters. Forey, 28, who lives

in Llanelli but plays for the strong Cardiff club. won the Welsh title for the first time on Tuesday and beat Alex Marshall, the world champion, in the Masters on

Wednesday. HOCKEY: Mark Pearn returns from injury to the Reading side that will defend the indoor club title today at Crystal Palace. Reading, who defeated East Grinstead 9-8 in the final last year, are due to meet the same opponents in the final pool B match, but each side must also contend with Southgate, the third club in the pool, who are making

a strong challenge. **E CYCLING:** Graeme Miller, New Zealand's former Commonwealth Games double gold medal-winner. took the overall lead in the Tour of Langkawi at the end of 166-kilometre second stage from Kangar to Georgetown. Malaysia yesterday.

Begin Bridge with The Times: Lesson 42 - Putting it into Practice Enough of all that bidding theory. It is time for a full hand to see how it works in practice. You pick up as South:

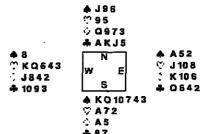
♠ KQ10743 ♥ A72 ♦ A5 487

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

You have 13 HCP and, because you have two doubletons, an unbalanced hand. So you open with your longest suit. One Spade. Your parmer, North, bids Two Clubs and East pass-

You have a minimum opening bid, and have no second suit to bid, so you rebid your longest suit, Two Spades. West passes, your partner raises to Three Spades and East nasses. What do you call?

You have already described your hand as minimum but you do have a little extra. You could have had 12 HCP and you have 13. Also, you have a good, strong suit and two aces, which are always better than kings and queens. So you go on to Four Spades and this is the full hand:



Contract: Four Spades by South. Lead: king of hearts Count your tricks. You have and East plays a second

five spades, one heart, one diamond (maybe two if West has the king) and two clubs (maybe three if West has the queen). You need one more

Should you win the ace of hearts and draw trumps? No. If you do that you will need an extra trick in a minor suit. There is a better olav than that.

Win the ace of hearts and return a low heart. West will win and the best he can do is to play a trump to East's ace

trump. You win in hand and ruff your small heart in the dummy. Come back to your hand with the ace of diamonds and draw the last trump, making ten tricks in

Deal out the hand for yourself and play it through until you are sure you understand 33 Qf4 everything that went on.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

Ra4 Kd6 Ra1+ Be5 Kd5 38 Qb4+ 39 Qb7+ 40 h6 41 k/3

Shirov last year, some fire abcdefgh White: Vladimir Kramnik

Diagram of final position

Black: Jan Timman Wijk aan Zee 1999

English Opening Nc3 g3 o4 Nbd4 Oved - Ov 6 Nun4 7 Nvc6 8 Nud1 9 Bg2 10 Ne3 11 Nuc4 12 Na5 13 Bd2 14 Rc1 16 Nac6 17 Rc5 18 Rc6 19 Ruc8 20 Bxd5 21 f4 22 Rf1 23 Rf3 25 Ra3 26 Rxa7 Ra1 + 29 K/2 30 a5 32 a6 33 h4 Kh6 kug6 Ra2 Kf7

-- Girobank

Girobank announces that

with effect from the close of business

its Base Rate was

on 4 February 1999

reduced from 6.00% to

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5.50% per annum,

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL Kick-off 7.45 unless stated Nationalde League First division Binstot City v QPR. Second division Colchester v York

Third division

Swansea v Brighton . FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLI-ANCE Ministra Conference: Cresterfed v Port Vale (11.30) North West Confer-ence: Bury v Transfere (1.0), Presion v Ro-EASTERN COUNTIES

RUGBY UNION Ireland v France

Scotland v Wa (at Myreside, 7.0) Under-21 International matches Ireland v France (at Musgrave Park, Cork, 7.0)..... itand v Wales (at Bridgehaugh, Stirling 6.30)...

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Lexoster Riders v Barmenham Bulets (6.0). Sheffield Starts v Chestor Jacs (7.4). HOCKEY: National Indoor champion-ships: Finels (at Crystal Palace, 3.15) RVGBY LEAGUE: Club match: Sheffield v Hull (7.30).

WORD-WATCHING

ACUSHLA a. An Alpine plant b. Dear heart c. An Alpine cow

FOO-FOO a. An expression of disbelief b. A petticoat c. Dough

By Philip Howard BALAO a. A wooden gear

b. A dance

c. A fish

FRIPPET a. A young hare b. A young woman c. A young fir tree

Answers on page 50

from the game Weiss -Kulhanek. Czech Republic, 1998. Unusually, both sides

through?

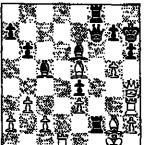
By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is are attacking on the kingside. How did White break

41 Kxd4

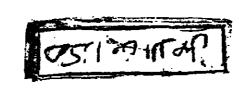
WINNING MOVE

Solution on page 50



Ra1

Black resigns



GOLF: LEADING BRITONS FIND COMPETITION A STRUGGLE IN THE MALAYSIAN HEAT

Untimely shock for Westwood

BY MEL WEBB

THERE is nothing that is more solidly guaranteed to send a golfer into a blue funk than lightning. The shafts of golf clubs make first-class conductors and, if it rains as well, so do the frames of umbrellas.

Thus, when the mega-volts came towards the end of the first day of the Benson and Hedges Malaysian Open in steamy Kuala Lumpur yesterday, the players were only too pleased to hear the sound of salvation from the klaxons. Indeed, the call, some thought, might have come a little earli-

Play at the Saujana club, on

SCORES

ncomplete because of spithing 68: C Pens (US). Zhang Lan-wei (China) 67: F Minoza (Pré). 88: Cho Kyoung-u (S Kor). T Muñoz (Sp). 70: A Hansen (Den). C Chemock

the outskirts of the Malaysian capital, was halted with 56 players still on the course, among them Darren Clarke and Lee Westwood, both strug-gling with early-season rustiness. Clarke held on gallantly to the vestiges of his customary geniality. "That was very close," he said with masterly understatement. Westwood, on the other hand, never one to mince his words, was positively volcanic in his criticism of what he saw as an unnecessary delay in pulling players off the course.

We were on the 15th tee. which is just about the most exposed and open spot on the

whole course, when we heard that somebody had been struck just below us," he said. "It was ridiculous."

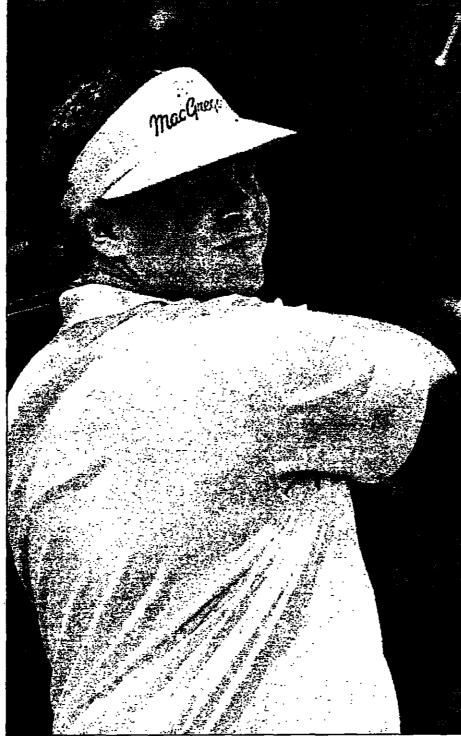
At least Westwood escaped unscathed. He was relieved not to have been on the wrong end of the electric shock treatment, but not half as relieved as Gil Oberhofer, an Australian television cameraman, who was on the tower behind the 14th green when he felt a strange sensation in his back. An ambulance was sent, but the doughty Oberhofer sent them away after assuring medical staff that he had suffered no ill-effects.

David Garland, the tournament director, said later that Oberhofer's experience may have been the result of a buildup of static rather than an allout strike. Be that as it may, Oberhofer was still happier to be inside the clubhouse than outside it.

Valen Tan, the tournament director for the Asian Tour, which is running the event jointly with the European Tour, said that horns were sounded the moment a lightning device on the roof of the clubhouse registered a strike within a radius of between five and ten miles.

The precautions pleased nobody more than John Bickerton, the Midlander, who has been struck by lightning twice in his career. Spectators perished after strikes at both the US Open and the US PGA championships in the early Nineties and among several other players to have been hit in the past is Lee Trevino, who responded, famously, by saying: "I should have held up a one-iron - not even God can hit a one-iron."

Earlier exploits on the course left Westwood and Clarke needing a dose of shock hole fewer.



Clarke tees off at the start of the interrupted first round in Kuala Lumpur yesterday

treatment if they were to make an impression on the tourna-ment. Westwood, shirt soaked with perspiration, admitted to feeling rusty as he subsided to three over par with four holes to play, a stroke behind Clarke, who had played one

They have much ground to make up. The lead in the club-China, both of whom recorded 66, six under par. David Howhouse, established before the ell, on three under par with suffocating humidity that pretwo holes to play, was the bestceded the storm became a tellplaced home player, one ing factor, was held by Christian Pena, an American who makes his living on the Asian Tour, and Zhang Lian-wei, of

ahead of Andrew Coltart, who shot a 70. What Westwood and Clarke would not give to be in their positions this morning. run of their downhill training

SKIING: WOMEN FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE SET BY MEN IN SPEED EVENTS



AUSTRIA dominated the women's super-giant statom on Wednesday, increasing the stranglehold that their country has on the speed events at the world championships. Austria have now won five of the first six medals.

The men were completing their second training run yesterday for the downhill on Satgoes according to plan, it will be a dramatic race between

urday on the Birds of Prey course at Beaver Creek. If all Meissnitzer: relaxed

informative:

First Direct Base Rate

With effect from 4 February 1999, First Direct Base Rate has been decreased by 0.50% from 6.00% p.a. to 5.50% p.a.

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With effect from 4 February 1999, the HomeOwner Reserve interest rate has been decreased by 0.50% to 11.75% p.a. (APR 12.2%).

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Good News For NatWest Small Business Customers

Interest rates applicable to **Business Overdraft Agreements**; Business Loan Agreements' and Flexible Business Loan Agreements* are reduced by 1/2% per annum with effect from

5 February 1999. This notice does not apply to agreements which specify the rate as fixed or linked to Base Rate.

NatWest National Westerlinger Bank Pic, 41 Lastinory, Landon ECCP 28P

Austria continue to set the pace

FROM GRAHAM DUFFILL IN VAIL, COLORADO

Hermann Maier, of Austria, Austria's strength in depth and Lasse Kius, of Norway, who tied for first place in the super-giant slalom on Tuesday.
There are few other racers

likely to prevent Austria from taking the other places on the podium. Their formidable. four-man team will be made up of Maier, Werner Franz. Hans Knauss, who missed winning the gold medal in the super-giant slalom by 0.01sec in the closest race in world championship history, and Stephan Eberharter, who clinched the final place in the squad by finishing joint-first, with Knauss, in a training run yesterday -- both men record-

ing a time of Imin 14.12sec.

It speaks volumes for

that Fritz Strobl, Hannes Trinkl and Andreas Schifferer and Peter Rzehak, who was fastest in training on Wednesday. will not be in their team. Kjetil Andre Azmodt, of

Norway, was second in the training run on Wednesday and seventh yesterday -- performances that hinted that the technically demanding downhill course will suit him. Chad Fleischer, of the United States, showing his determination to pull out all the stops on "home" snow, was fourth. Andrew Freshwater, of Great Britain, had an impres-

sive run, finishing seven-teenth — just 2sec off the fast-The women held the second yesterday, with Michaela Dorfmeister taking first place. Dorfmeister, who took the bronze medal in the super-giant slalom on Wednesday, said afterwards that she wanted to win the downhill.

Renate Goetschl, who had finished second in the supergiant slalom, beaten by just 0.03sec, believes that Hilde Gerg and Martina Ertl, both of Germany, will emerge as the biggest threats to another Austrian clean sweep. Alexandra Meissnitzer, the super-giant slalom gold medal-win-ner, said that she would be more relaxed for the downhill now that she had secured a medal and was only tenth in

All competitors will have three training runs on the downhill courses. Today, the women will race for the combined medal with a downhill in the morning and two slalom races in the afternoon The times from all three races are added together.

BOWLS

Gillett leads England to series

THE three-man England team won the decisive third international at the Warilla Indoor Bowis Club, near Sydney, yesterday and redeemed themselves in the eyes of Mal Hughes, the team manager, who had described their performance in the second international on Wednesday as "Mickey Mouse bowls".

"I'm very pleased with the way they played today," Hughes said. "The triples was a real battle, but they kept the game tight and didn't play any silly shots.

Hughes, who played for England from 1973 to 1981, added: "Les [Gillett] was exceptional in the pairs. He played an Clearly referring to sugges-

extremely good game at lead." tions that England had sent a below-strength squad, he said: "Our boys learnt what it was like to play international bowls against good opposition."

It was the first overseas trip for the three players, who justified their selection in place of Tony Allcock, Andy Thomson and John Ottaway, who won the inaugural series last year. England's success under-

lined Australia's mistake in playing the series indoors. ultra-fast outdoor greens would have given them a definite home advantage. Don Sherman, the Australia team manager, said: "The EngBy DAVID RHYS JONES

land players have so much more experience indoors and are very consistent." The series was scheduled to be outdoors, but was moved indoors to suit the television company covering the event.

Gillett, Danny Denison and John Leeman won the triples 15-13, after Australia opened with four successive singles. England scored the next 12 shots in six ends and staved off a strong rally by Australia. In the pairs, Gillett and Leeman clawed back from 1-7 after six ends to win 15-10.

Leaving the singles session

until last was not a success because, in all three matches, the last rubber has been dead England won triples and pairs in the first and third internationals, while Australia did the same in the second. In the "dead" singles, cut to best-ofthree, Johnston, of Australia, beat Denison 7-2, 5-7, 7-4.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 49

(b) Dear heart or darling (used as a term of address). Anglo-Irish. In Irish it means "vein or pulse of my heart".

(c) A kind of dough made out of plantains. A traditional food of Negroes on both sides of the Atlantic. Of West African origin. It

is recorded in Twi, Ewe, Wolof, etc. "The Shepherd's Bush market has a shop devoted wholly to West Indian foods, like garden eggs and foo-foo, edwene and dried snails."

(c) A West Indian fish, the half-beak. The Spanish name. "For sail and other large fish they use a sardine-sized, sword-nosed minnow called a balao."

(b) A frivolous or showy young woman. Origin unknown. " 'Mistress! he thought. It was like the swine of a man to use such a word for what he and Edwards would have called a bit of a

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE-1, Oxh6+! gxh6; 2. Rxh6+ Kg8; 3, Rh8 checkmate.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Gardening in the buff

Garden Stories BBC2, 8.30pm

This series has feasted on personality—or perhaps I mean eccentricity—so dubbing a whole episode Personality looks like egging the pudding. But you've been patient and now you are rewarded. Yes, here they are the nude gardeners! "Obviously we wanted a secluded garden," they say, generally having it and themselves to the context. ously baring it and themselves to the camera. But size helps. A man with a vast estate has made it home to flamingos, wallabies, giant tortoises and enough exotica to satisfy William Randolph Hearst. "I get carried away a bit." he sighs. "This is my Hello! garden," cries Rosa whose patch is home to 110 dolls. She likes to eavesdrop on the comments of passers-by (or so she says). A former hairdresser titivates her garden: "It's just a need to spin."

Britain's Worst DIYers

ITV. 9.00pm

The "... from Hell" concept has, you might think, run its course but Granada's zeal for milking it is undimmed. The tape of the latest example was unavailable for preview but even the best efforts of the press release bode ill, promising "disasters which nearly all of us will be able to relate to". which nearly all of us will be able to relate to". Lined up to parade their home improvement shame are the Southampton man whose home collapsed as a result of his tinkering with the porch, the Essex resident who cuts costs by papering his walls with samples and the Irish woman who never finishes a redecorating task. The champion has to be a man from Exeter who has "just paid off the mortgage but the house still looks like a building site".

Country House BBC2, 7.30pm

The lives of the Tavistocks and their 250 staff at Woburn Abbey, continued. Departures and uncertainties mark this episode. The elephant handler quits the "artificial environment" of the safari park. The archaic straw-burning contrap-tion for heating the house is on its last bundle. The head forester, Cyril, gets his long-awaited oper-ation. A supervisor has been punched and the camera pretends to squint through half-closed

Boyz Unlimited, a new comedy charting the rise of a boy band (Channel 4, 9.30pm)

doors at Lady Tavistock's deliberations on the issue. The trouble with this kind of docusoap is that it depends on — and hence judes up — the small change of individuals' lives and entirely ignores even the implication of any larger questions. The provocations inherent in the notion of stately homes under new Labour are left severely alone. So you learn nothing of import, merely witnessing the little dramas we all endure in our own lives.

Channel 4, 9.30pm

Radio 4, 2.15pm

Does anybody monitor commissioning at Horse-ferry Road? I ask only because the infinitely (superior Young Person's Guide to Being a Rock Star, shown late last year, has rendered this six-parter even more redundant than it would be by its own efforts. Looking and sounding out of date, the show's only point would be to use the launching of a boy combo as a means of savaging the rampant cynicism of band marketing but this merely pure genially at the music biz. Fatally, the material is demonstrated in demonstrated in the second statement of the second st presented in documentary style, ignoring the fact that few acrors (certainly few young actors) are adept at playing "real" as if unscripted. You would think an experienced production company like Har Trick would know better than to produce an object lesson in how not to entertain the youth market. W. Stephen Gilbert

Kevin Wong wrote this play and it is a delightfully wacky piece of work that clearly owes a good deal to Wong's background: he grew up working in a Chinese laundry (both his parents are Chinese) and later he worked at a fish 'n' chip shop in Stokeon-Trent. How extraordinary are the minds at work behind the counters of Chinese takeaways. This story concerns Tommy (Ben Wong), whose girlfriend walks out on him over breakfast. The

girlfriend walks out on him over breakfast. The same morning Tommy is sacked from his job as a florist. Tommy's revenge forms the basis for the drama. He takes out his last load of flowers but delivers them to the wrong people, with consequences for the individuals concerned that range from the amusing to the plain tragic. Peter Barnard

BBC WORLD SERVICE

5.00am The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55 My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 Westway 8.20 Off the Shelf-Sias Manner 8.35 Science in Action 9.00 World News 9.05 The Art of Translating 9.20 John Peel 9.50 Sports Round-Up 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Britain Today 10.45 On Your Behalf 11.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Entlain Today 10.45 On Your Behalf 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Focus on Feath 12.00pm World News 12.05 Outlook 12.46 Sports Round-Up 1.00 Newshour 2.00 World News 2.05 Science in Action 2.30 Best on Record 3.00 World News 3.05 Football Extra 3.15 Performance 3.30 The Virtage Chart Show 4.00 World News 4.15 Insight 4.30 Multitrack A termetive 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45

Itemetive 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45
Sports Round-Up 6.00 World News 6.15 Eritain Today 6.30
Focus on Path 7.00 World News 7.05 Science in Action 7.30
On Your Behalf 7.45 Off the Shelf: Sites Marrier 8.00 Newshour
9.00 World News 9.05 World Business Report 9.20 Eritain
Today 9.30 Best on Record 10.00 World News 10.15 Sports
Round-Up 10.30 Multitrack: Alternative 11.09 World News
11.05 Outdook 11.45 Insight 12.00am The World Today 12.30
Science in Action 12.55 Mc Centre 1.00 The World Today
1.05 Control of the Worl

Science in Action 12.55 My Century 1.00 The World Today 1.30 Medidan Books 2.00 The World Today 2.30 People and Potitics 3.00 The World Today 3.20 Sports Round-Up 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00ams Nick Ballay's Easier Breaklast. Music to get the day off to a fine start 8.00 Herny Kelly. The Hall of Ferne Hour. Plus, favourite pieces voted for in the Classic FM Top 300 12.00pm Lunchtime Requests. Jame Jones plays lavouritie music 2.00 Concerto. Late (Cello Concerto in Diminor) 3.00 Jamie Crick.

ve 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World

Afternoon Play: Say it with Flowers

RADIO CHOICE

Front Page Sport Radio 4. [1.30pm

A new series presented by Rob Bonnet that takes a look at some of the famous occasions when sport has moved from the back pages to the ones at the front. There has been a very recent example of this but for the life of me I cannot recall the details. Many people see the arrival of sport on the front pages as a recent phenomenon, whereas nations with high profiles in sport have always found front-page space for the activities of their sporting figures. The series begins with the scandal involving the Chicago White Sox baseball team, which lost the World Series in 1919 in spite of being hot favourites. A year later match-fixing allegations emerged and eight White Sox players were put on trial.

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30cm Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00cm Kevin Green e.30mm 206 Bail 9.000 Shrton Mayor 12.00 part New Seet a 0.00
Peter Tong's Essential Selection 9.000 Judge Jules, Dence furnes 11.00 Westwood; Radio 1 Rap Show 2.00 and Feblo and nder 4.00 Emma B

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Alex Lester 7.30 Wake Up to Wogen 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00pm Jimmy Young 2.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Sean Hughes 7.00 Morley at the Musicels. New series. Sheriden Morley looks at the history of the transallantic stage musical (1/6), 7.30 Fridey Night is Music Night 9.15 Frankenstein (4/8) 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.00 David Jacobs 11.00 Belleve it or Not are Lynn Parsons 4.00 Late Shi

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campball 12.00pm The Midday News with Alian Robb 1.00 Ruscoe and Co 4.00 Drive with Peter Alien and Jane Garvay 7.00 News Eutra. Presented by Susan Bookbinder 7.30 Alan Green's Sportsright. Includes commertary on Bristol City v OPR 10.00 Late Night Live with Brian Hayes 1.00am Up Ali Night

TALK RADIO

6.00em The Big Boys Breakdast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Reaburn 3.00 OKI to Talk 6.00 The SportZone 8.00 Jackse Mason Live from New York 10.00 Dave Barrett 1.00em Miles Dickin

6.30am Chris Evans 9.30 Mark Forrest 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Hamlet Scott 7.00 Wheels of Steel 11.00 Janey Lee Grace 2.00am Steve Power

Concerto. Lato (Celio Concerto in D minor) 3.00 Jernie Crick. Continuous Clessics, plus sport updates and travel news 6.30 Newsright. Top stories and interviews with guests from the arts world 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces classic sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Beethoven (Overture Leonore); Michaele Espositio (Three Ballades); Beethoven (String Trio in No 3 in C minor); Mendelssortin (Plano Concerto in A flat major) 11.00 Mann at Night 2.00am Concerto Lato (Celio Concerto in D minor) (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths. The Early Breaklast Show

6.00am On Air with Petroc Trelawny. Includes Grieg (Peer Gynt State No 1); Mendelssofm (String Symphony No 10 in B minor); Wagner (Overture: The Flying Dutchman) 9.00 Mesterworks with Peter Hobday. Includes Christian Homeman (Gurre State); Grieg (And I Will Take a Sweetheart; Autumn Storms); Schubert (Plano Sonata in F minor). (SS); Tchaikovsky (Symphony M. 4 in F minor).

(Plano Sonata in Firmon, D625); Tchaikovsky (Symphony No 4 in Firmon)

10.30 Artist of the Weelc Julia Varady

11.00 Sound Stories: Clerica Richard Baker traces the spiritual journey of Cardinal Newman

12.00pm Composer of the Weelc List

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert John Scott, organist of St Paul's Cathedral, joins the flautist Helen Keen for a dust recital from the Chapel of Queen's College, Oxford

2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Osmo Vanska and Jun'ichi Hirokami, Piers Lane, plano. Besthoven (Overture: Egmont); Mozart (Symphony No 35 in D, Haffner); Besthoven (Plano Concento No 5 in E flat, Emperor); Nelsen (Symphony No 5)

4.00 Music Restored Lucie Skeaping introduces a selection of music connecting England and France (r)

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4.45 Music Machine Tommy Pearson talks to Colin Larkin and the Times music critic Ceitin Moran

Larkin and the Times music critic Cattin Moran about the sound of the 1990s
5.00 in Tune Sean Rafferty is joined by the flamenco guitarist Paco Pena, whose new dence drama, La Musa Gitana, opened this week in London
7.30 Performance on 3 Live from the Music Hall, Aberdeen, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Osmo Vanska, Elsabeth Batiesthvili, violin, James MacMillan (The Corression of Isobel Gowcie); Beethoven (Violin Concerto in D) 8.40 News from North Britain: Coloured Lights, by Leta Aboulela. (2/5) 9.00 Sibelus (Symphony No 1)
9.50 Postscript: Outriders Patrick Wright talks to the publisher Marion Boyars who deed earlier this week (5/5)

publisher Marion Boyars who died earlier this week (5/5)

10.10 BBC Symphony Orchestra (Sounding the Century) Conductor Martyn Brabbins, Valdine Anderson, soprano. Boulez (Fi Selon Pi)

11.30 Jazz Century with Russell Davies (r)

12.00am Composer of the Week: Tavener (r)

1.00 Through the Night with Donald Macleod. 1.00 Monteverd (Vespers. 1810) 2.20 Brahms (Ato Phapsody) 2.30 Debussy (Suite bergamaque)

3.45 Mccarl (Symphony No 29 in A) 5.15 Bach (Paritia No 1 in B minor, BWV1002)

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast
5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day
5.47 Farming Today with Charlotte Smith
6.00 Today with John Humphrys and Sue MacGregor
8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Partiament
9.00 Desert island Discs The writer Bill Bryson joins
Sue Lawley as this week's castaway (r)
9.45 (FM) Serial: Best American Essays an Frazier
view Snew York life via the subway from Brooklyn
to Manhattan (5/5) (r)
9.45 (LW) An Act of Worship
10.00 Woman's Hour Jenni Marray presents Helen
Miner's audio diary from South Africa
11.00 Great Grandad Had a Fliat Head The novelist
Louse Doughty traces her Romany mots and
finds echoes of her ancestors' lives among
today's travellers (r)
11.30 The Oldest Member: The Letter of the Law by
P.G. Wodehouse, Starring Maurice Derham (6/6)
12.00 (LW) News Headthers; Shipping Forecast
12.00pm (FM) News 12.04 You and Yours Liz Barclay
and John Waite present consumer issues and
public service reports.
1.00 The World at One with Mick Clarke
1.30 Puzzle Panel Chris Masianika presents riddles

1.30 Puzzte Panel Chris Masianka presents riddles and brain-teasers

2.00 The Archers (f)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Say It with Flowers A florat's delivery boy exacts revenge on his girlfriend by taking bouquets to the wrong places. Written by

Kevin Wong. See Choice (f)

3.00 Logged On Quentin Cooper takes listeners' calls on Internet shopping

3.30 A View with a Room Plans to calebrate the meeting of Herry Royce and the Hon Charles Rolls at the Middler Hotel in Manchester which led to their histonic collaboration on car design (f)

3.45 This Sceptred fale The history of Britain

4.00 Open Book Humphrey Carpenter explores the popularity of true crime writing (r)
4.30 The Message Alex Brodie and his guests discuss current media trends
5.00 PM with Clare English and Eddie Mair
6.00 Stx O'Clock News
6.30 The Gheet of Number Ten Political farce, by Steve Naikon and Turan Ali. Starring Maggie Steed, Mark Williams, Jan Ravens and Andrew Wilnott (5/8)

Wincott (5/8)
7.00 The Archers Eddie takes a cover drive
7.15 Front Row Mark Lawson presents the nightly arts programme
7.45 Speaking for Themselves: The Personal
Latters of Winston and Clementine Churchill
Latters of Winston and Clementine Churchill

Broadcast or winston and Clementine Churching Broadcast earlier as part of Woman's Hour (f) 8.00 Any Questions? Demis Skinner, the Rey Michael Santer, Sir Rathick Mayhew and Trevor Kavanagh respond to questions from an audience in Walsall, West McCanter. xt Midlands

West Miclands
8.45 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke
9.06 The Friday Play: Emergency During the Second
World War a German officer lands in tretand,
prompting a bizarra chain of events, Written by
Robin Glendinning and starring Patrick O'Kane (f)
10.00 The World Touright with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Sound of Trumpets Final
part, by John Mortimer. Read by Filk Mayell
11.00 Late Night on 4: Late Tackde Beanor Oldroyd
and guests preview the five nations' rugby
tournament
11.30 (Filt) Front Paga Sport Rob Bonnet presents the
first in a new series of sporting scandals which
had wider implications. See Choice (1/3)
11.30 (LVI) Today in Parliament
12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book: Lemons's Tale
Ken Saro-Wiwa's late (5/10)
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 683, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.46-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and

Grisly details of the race to save the planet

was not the subtitle of Doomsday: What Can We Do? (ITV). Monday night's frantic American Cook's tour of nuclear terrorism, asteroid impacts and killer viruses, but it should have been. Ah the frisson of imminent disaster! The thrill of the inevitable end of civilisation!

Attenuate de

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reith in the

Water Hill Allera

1944 March 17 (1872)

with the little

I wish I hadn't seen it, because it kept popping into my head like a novelty record during Pandemic (BBC2). Horizon's attempt to get to grips with the possibility of an out-break of a deadly new flu virus, comparable to the epidemic of 1918. That killed between 40 and 100 million people, vastly more than the First World War.

Even serious programmes have to sell themselves, so we were not spared the lurid threats. We had a near miss last year, for instance. Only the slaughter of thousands of innocent Hong Kong chickens

saved us from an epidemic which could, said Professor Robert Webster, have wiped out half the world's population.

In fact, like many programmes in this series, it was the story of a research race, and an entertaining story it was too. Scientists have been seeking preserved samples of the 1918 flu virus, in the hope that they will reveal how it got from birds to humans and why it was so lethal

Dr Kirsty Duncan, a stylish young Canadian geographer, was organising an expedition to Svalbard, near Spitzbergen, where seven Norwegian miners died of flu in 1918. She hoped their infected soft tissue would be preserved in the permafrost. I thought geographers drew little pictures of sheep on maps rather than digging up killer viruses, but never mind.

Kirsty believes in ceremonies. She assembled a team of international flu experts and made them

had the temerity to question her approach, calling her something of a "neophyte". He was uncomfortable with all the premature hype. such as the Horizon documentary crew. He had not realised that Kirsty was also a control freak. She bristled. Anyone not committed to her project should leave now, she declared.

n fact, somebody had tried this trick before. Forty-six vears ago. Dr Johan Hultin of California took preserved tissue from flu victims in Alaska. He tried to revive the virus by pushing frozen samples up the noses of Jahoratory ferrets. Well, you would, wouldn't you? Sometimes we need to defrost our fish fingers in a hurry. "Push tilem up a ferret's nose." I declare, "It works every time," Meanwhile, in California, re-

searcher Jeffrey K. Taubenberger

REVIEW

Paul



had discovered that the US military keep a vast archive of dead servicemen's bodily tissues pre-served in wax. Wax is a more reliable storage medium for this ghoulish library than, say, ferrets' noses. While Kirsty was whipping her boffins into line, Jeffrey K. found a bit of waxed 1918 lung, complete with virus, and pieced together most of its genetic code.

When his sample ran out he con-

more. He didn't take any ferrets. though - just his wife's pruning shears. I guess they were the kind marketed as "also useful for exhuming diseased corpses".

Kirsty and team had arrived in Svalbard and held a lot of sensitive, meaningful and reverential ceremonies over the graves, with Kirsty presiding. They had so many masks, isolation suits and quarantine tents it looked like a scene from E.T. Then they got digging. Kirtsy's

expedition £250,000. She found no usable virus samples. "The goal was to get soft tissue. We got soft tissue," she announced triumphantly. If that was all she wanted she could have mied the wastepaper basket in any doctor's waiting room. They are full of soft tissues, many impregnated with flu virus.

Hultin's pruning expedition cost

This usefully proved that establishing the virus's genetic code doesn't tell you how it spreads from birds to humans, or why it is so lethal. We are still doomed!

T ith an audience hovering around the million mark, Family Confiden tial is Channel 5's most successful "documentary" series. It is easy to see why. Exploring the everyday lives of the nation's most feekless. dim-witted or irresponsible fami-Jies has a considerable grisly fascination. It is, of course, studiously non-judgmental.

The families are pure talk-show fodder. Anglia trawl their subjects up from the same murky research pool as Trisha and Vanessa, It is a new hybrid, a talku-soap or, perhaps a Springermentary. Usually one family member wants to complain about the others and they all

Sharon, who dumps her kids on her for days to swan around as a topless kiss-o-gram. A chilly job: I hope she doesn't get flu. Channel Five also launched a

new series of Bring Me The Head of Light Entertainment, the comedy panel game hosted by irritating, squeaky Graham Norton. It is a tribute to (or rip-off of) the ghastly old series called Joker's Wild. where club comics told lame gags in answer to questions from Barry Cryer, but using alternative standups instead. Even the individual rounds all seemed lifted from other programmes.

It was not completely devoid of laughs, but most of them were only "alternative" in the sense that they were ruder than B. Manning could ever get away with on the box. Too much material, alas, felt clammy and dead. They could try shoving it up a ferrer's nose.

BBC1 6.00am Business Breakfast (95495) 7.00 Breakfast News (T) (31124) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (8212785)

9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (4611360) 10.55 News; Weather (T) (6783124) 11.00 Real Rooms (6793501) 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (1) (6763360)

11.55 News; Weather (T) (1953747) 12.00pm Call My Bluff (32673) 12.30 Wipeout (8861209) 12.55 The Weather Show (1) (48419211) mars and the time

1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (34211) 1.30 Regional News; Weather (47148679) 1.40 Neighbours Sarah confronts her stalker

(T) (25027834) 2.05 Ironside The Chief investigates a

grenade attack on two Vietnam veterans (r) (3174495) 2.55 Body Spies A stress-busting plan to beat fatigue (5428785)

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (6341414) 3.45 Spider (2211018) 3.50 Smart on the Road (3376018) 4.05 Rugrats (6423414) 4.30 L & K Friday (5114308) 4.55 Newsround Extra (1647853) 5.10 Blue Peter (6205389)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (1) (148766) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (414) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (766)

7.00 Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook Casualty stars Claire Goose and Rebecca Lacey attempt to create a meal against the clock (T) (6501)

7.30 Top of the Pops The week's chart-toppers, featuring the UK's number one single (19.4650) 8.00 Vets in Practice Keith and Fiona prepare to depart to different destinations

(10/10) (T) (2921) 8.30 A Question of Sport Martin Johnson, Johnny Herbert, Steve Smith and Niall Quinn take part in the quick-fire sports

quiz, with team captains Ally McCoist and John Pairott (1) (1056) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News; Weather (T) (3872)

9,30 Parkinson Guests include Michael Caine and Harry Enfield (T) (824834) 10.22 Comic Relief: The Launch Preview of the fundraising event (T) (276940)



Jean-Claude Van Damme puts paid

to some evil hunters (10.25pm) 10.25 Hard Target (1993) Violent thriller, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme as a sailor investigating a group of sadistic hunters specialisting in human quarry. Directed by John Woo (T) (9652679)

11.55 The Stand-Up Show (308056) 12.25am The Big End (r) (T) (6209032) 12.55 The Undead (1956) A deranged scientist manages to send a woman 1,000 years back in time, where she attempts to alter her destiny. Horror, starring Pamela Duncan and Val Dufour.

Directed by Roger Corman (T) (4434544) 2.05 Weather (5895362) 2.10 BBC News 24 (54095506)

7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: Hairy Jeremy (3479834) 7.05 Teletubbies (6397476) 7.30 Secret Squirrel and Co (6176143) 7.55 Short Change (6722786) 8.18 Rewind (9326969) 8.20 Taz-Mania (7268124) 8.40 Polika Dot Shorts (3247872) 8.50 Johnson and Friends (3243056) 9.00 Storytime (2982619) 9.10 See You, See Me (4074969) 9.30 Numbertime (1159414) 9.45 Come Outside (1154969) 10.00 Telefubbles (95834) 10.30 Megamaths (7106230) 10.50 Look and Read (7193766) 11.10 Landmarks (9268853) 11.30 English File (9679) 12.00pm Scene (32655) 12.30 Working Lunch (42679) 1.00 Johnson

and Friends (94492501) 1.10 The Travel Hour (r) (9156563) 2.10 Sporting Greats (61202872) 2.40 News; Weather (T) (3564650)

2.45 Match of their Day With Malcolm Alison (5/15) (1) (2011292) 3.25 News; Weather (T) (4656330) 3.30 Turning Points (2214105)

3.35 The Natural World The spotted hyena (r) (T) (2641124)

4.25 Breathing Lessons (1993) An ageing couple's marriage is threatened by their contrasting views on life. With James Garner and Joanne Woodward. Directed by John Erman (T) (56914768) 6.00 The Simpsons (r) (T) (109143)

6.20 The Simpsons (r) (T) (110259) 6.45 Robot Wars Philippa Forrester presents motorised mayhem (T) (141582)

7.15 Electric Circus News and gossip from the world of entertainment (1) (242899) 7.30 CHOICE Country House Lord and Lady Tavistock are lorced to make some décisions (T) (292)

8.00 Gardening from Scratch Helen Yemm helps to transform an old coal bunker into an attractive garden feature (r) (1) (9993) 6.30 Garden Stories The team visit a retired lawyer's uttra-modern plot (T) (9698)



Tom (James Dreyfus) strikes it lucky with Nino (Charlie Condou) (9pm)

9.00 Gimme Gimme Gimme Tom has a night of passion with an Italian he meets in a pub (T) (1414) 9.30 Bang, Bang, It's Reeves and Mortimer

Les Dennis makes his debut on stage at Baron's nightclub (6/6) (T) (55143) 10.00 The Young Ones Mr Balowski becomes

a mad axeman (r) (T) (82114) 10.30 Newsnight (T) (840292) 11.15 The Outer Limits Aliens plot to destroy Earth (1) (623747)

12.00am Edith and Marcel (1983) Musica biopic, charting the relationship between the singer Edith Piaf and the boxing champion Marcel Cerdan. Evelyne Bount and Marcel Cerdan Jr star. Directed by Claude Lelouch (T) (42020322) 2.35 Weather (4501612) 2.40 Close

3.00 BBC Learning Zone: GCSE Bresize Revision: English 3 (94254) 5.00 Close

5.30em ITN Morning News (31785) 6.00 GMTV (5666786)

9.25 Trisha (T) (5672211) 10.30 This Morning (T) (11786018) 12.15pm HTV News (T) (7355747) 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (T) (39105) 12.59 HTV Crimestoppers (48411679)

1.00 WEST: Shortland Street Minnie hides her heartbreak (36679) 1.00 WALES: Wish You Were Here? Visits to Cuba, the Dolomites and Palma de

Majorca (r) (T) (36679) 1.30 Home and Away Robert's plan is working (T) (38476) 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (5090650)

2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep The shopping quiz (T) (526124) 3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (6456312) 3.20 HTV News (T) (9606835)

3.25 CITV: Mopatop's Shop (6351768) 3.35 Timbuctoo (2233230) 3.40 Animal Stories (2221495) 3.50 Adam's Family Tree (5029650) 4.15 Gladiators Train 2 Win (159501) 4.45 Comin' Aucha (5137259)

5.10 A Country Practice Tom fines Esme 5.40 ITN Early Evening News (1) (779785)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (698394) **6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (T) (958582)** 6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (343650) 6.30 WEST: The West Tonight (1) (834) 7.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right Popular game show (T) (8969)

7.30 Coronation Street Kevin and Sally prepare for a showdown (T) (178) 8.00 Airline The day of Katrına's wedding arrives (5/8) (T) (4389)

8.30 Neighbours from Hell Insight into life on the Cranhill estate on the outskirts of Glasgow (T) (6124)



Dean, who has wallpepered his kitchen using free samples (9pm)

9.00 CROICE Britain's Worst Divers Botchers and bodgers own up to their domestic disasters (1) (3124) 10.00 News at Ten; Weather (T) (98360)

10.30 HTV News and Weather (T) (156485) 10.45 All the Right Moves (1983) An eager high-school football player clashes with his ambitious coach. Drama, starring Tom Cruse and Craig T. Nelson. Michael Chapman directs (80382501)

12.30am Pirate TV Offoeat guide to adventure sports (11/7) (38780)

1.00 State of Emergency (1994) Joe Mantegna stars in this drama as a stressed-out doctor battling against time, the authorities and cutbacks to save patients in his emergency department Directed by Lesli Linka Glatter (912457) 2.35 The Haunted Fishtank (r) (6340457)

3.05 Baywatch (r) (T) (6221902). 3.55 Trisha Shown earlier (r) (T) (4012254) 4.55 (TV Nightscreen (88193815) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (20490)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 Central Were Here? (1) (T) (36679) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (1841940) 2.15-2.46 Home and Away (T) (527853) 3.20-3.25 Central News (T) (9606835) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9445679) 6.25-7.00 Central News: Street (9445679) 6.25-7.00 Central News; Weather (T) (95852) 10.30-10.40 Central News; Weather (T) 165143) 10.40 FILM: Sweeney! (94123834) 12.40am FILM: The Dunwich Horror (953457) 2.15 Box Office America (47544) 2.45 SeaCuest 2032 (r) (T) (3903167) 3.35 The Haunted Fishtank (r) (40463167) 4.05 Central Jobfinder '99 (T) (4095506) 5.20.5 (2) Action Firm (7565720) (6425506) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (7656780)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except. 12.15pm-12.27 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (7355747) 12.27-12.30 Illuminations (5762698) 1.00 Westcountry Update (36679) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (1841940) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (T) (527853) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (9606835) 5.08 Birthday People (5530105) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (T) (9445679) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (T) (47124) 10.30-10.45 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (156495) 10.45 The Other Side (1/5) (411853) 11.15 Renegade (774673) 12.10am-12.30 Tales from the Crypt (7518728)

MERIDIAN

A- HTV We cept: 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian news (7355747) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (T) (9445679) 6,00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (T (47124) 10.30 Meridian News: Weather (T (156495) 10.45 Dream Town (411853) 11.15 Bob Monkhouse on Campus (656124) 12.15am-12.30 The Making of Sphere (6351544) 5.00-5.30 Freescreen (T) (20490)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (8766414) 12.20-12.30 Anglia News and Weather (8754679) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (T) (9445679) 5.59 Anglia Weather (T) (740414) 6.00 Anglia News (T) (582) 6.30-7.00 Off the Beaten Track (2/10) (834) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (277679) 10.30 Anglia News and Weather (1) (165143) 10.40-12.30 FILM: Donato and Daughter (62445719)

Starts: 5.55am Sesame Street (r) (44614607) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (34346872) 9.00 Ysgotion: Off Lmsts (83314037) 9.25 Schools at Work (43650056) 9.30 Eureka (94464143) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (94469698) 10.00 Tha Complete Cosmos (65956037) 10.10 TVM (20880940) 10.25 laith ar Daith (20876747) 10.45 Enter the Maths Zone (83092563) 11.00 The Technology Programme (95721308) 11.15 Pa Newydd? (95744259) 11.30 Powerhouse (T) 140828853) 12.00pm Home Improvement (T) (29745766) 12.30 Sesame Street (T) (38383853) 1.00 Planed Plant (T) (34356259) 1.30 Roots to Success (T) (27970037) 1.50 FILM: The Virgin Queen (i) (17808227) 3.30 Hampton Court Palace (ii) (17808227) 3.30 Hampton Court Palace (ii) (81286037) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (ii) (81296056) 5.00 Planed Plant (64777747) 5.30 Countdown (ii) (81287308) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (T) (54582230) 6.10 Heno (T) (16465037) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (T) (64780211) 7.30 Newyddion (T) (81297785) 8.00 Cefn Gwlad (T) (64706259) 8.30 Y Clwb Rygbi (T) (64785766) 9.00 Pawb a'i Fam (62210209) 10.00 Brookside (T) (60487476) 10.35 Frasier (T) (56894414) 11.05 So Graham Norton (T) (47033582) 11.45 TFI Friday (32522853) 12.50am Streetmate (T) (20402728) 1.50 Johnny Meets Madonna (r) (T) (14916980) 2.50 The Mod Squad (97291964) 3.50 Vids (61868728) 4.25 Diwedd

CHANNEL 4 5.30am The Pink Panther (9403018) 5.50 The Magic Roundabout (r) (8112389) 5.55 Sesame Street (3853211)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (24834) 9.00 Schools: Off Limits (4020037) 9.25 Schools at Work (6332698) 9.30 Eureka (1144582) **9.45** Stop. Look, Listen (1149037) **10.00** The Complete Cosmos (6685747) 10.10 TVM (9392230) 10.25 Ulster Unearthed (9358037) 10.45 Enter the Maths Zone (2167414) 11.00 The Technology Programme (8424747) 11.15 Stage One (8447698)

11.30 Powerhouse (T) (4747) 12.00pm Sesame Street (T) (28501)

12.30 Bewitched In (1) (37747) 1.00 Pet Rescue in (f) (27921)

1.30 Earthscape The land iguana (90771211) 1.35 They Were Not Divided (1950) Drama following the expenences of English, Inshi and American Welsh Guards during the Second World War. Directed by Terence Young (T) (38464259)

3.30 Hampton Court Palace (T) (940) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (747)

4.30 Countdown (T) (5107018) 4.55 Ricki Lake (1) (3754921)

5.30 Pet Rescue (T₁ (211) 6.00 TFI Friday Anthony Edwards and Henry Winkler join Chris Evans Plus, music from Mansun and Mark Mornson (45766)

7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (1) (349105) 7.55 Music of the Millennium (T) (270785) 8.00 The Lost Gardens of Heligan The niece of John Claude Tremayne visits the gardens to see how restoration work is progressing (5/6) (r) (T) (5259)



Karen (Amanda Humphrey) and Jimmy (Dean Sullivan) (8.30pm)

8.30 Brookside Jackie is made to feel infenor when karen and Jimmy get on well at the dinner party (T) (4766)

9.00 Friends Chandler's tlambovant mother arrives in New York for a visit (r) (T) (6582) CROICE Boyz Unlimited New six-part comedy following the fortunes of an all-singing, all-dancing teen boy band (1/6) (T) (40211)

10.00 Frasier The Seattle shrink goes on a date (T) (29230) 10,30 So Graham Norton New series. The camp comedian is joined by Bo Derek and the model Sochie Dah! (851308)

11.10 King of the Hill Cotton drops a 11,40 TFI Friday Shown earlier (r) (815476)

12.45am 4 Later Introduction. The RuPaul Show (24693) 1.15 Late Toon: Pas a Deux European

animation (6220254) 1.25 The Mod Squad A Vietnam veteran seeks refuge with Linc Hayes (8650896) 2,25 Vids Officeat video reviews (r) (3905761)

3.00 This Sporting Life (1983) Powerful drama, starring Richard Harris as a successful rugby player. Directed by Lindsay Anderson (17703273)

6.00am 5 News and Sport Headlines

(6703018) 7.00 WideWorld (r) (T) (6178259)

7.30 Milkshake! (4143853) 7.35 Wimzie's House (r) (3323785)

8.00 Havakazoo (r) (4106259) 8.30 Dappledown Farm (r) (4198230)

9.00 Mixing It (r) (T) (1898766) 9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (r) (7523037)

9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6269921) 10.20 Sunset Beach Ben reveals his true feelings (T) (1276414)

11.10 Leeza (4685037) 12.00pm 5 News at Noon (T) (4176018) 12.30 Family Affairs (r) (T), 5 News Update (9111292)

1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Sly leigns. concern for Jessica (T) (6160230 1.30 The Roseanne Show (9110563) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (5366292)

2.30 Good Afternoon (1919872)
3.30 The World's Oldest Living Bridesmaid (TVM 1990) A lonely high-powered female lawyer has her life turned upside down by her affair with a young male secretary. Romantic comedy, starring Donna Mills, Directed by Joseph

L. Scanlan (9903834) 5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T), 5 News Update (9897835)

6.00 100 Per Cent Outz (6523037) 6.30 Family Affairs Roy takes drastic action (T) (6514389) 7.00 5 News; Weather Round-up of the day's

stones (T) (5377308) 7.30 Wild Water Dramatic lootage of dolphins (T); 5 News Update (6536501) 8.00 Was It Good for You? A couple return to

Disney World for the ninth consecutive year (5/14) (5386056) 8.30 Holiday Park The site boss Colin looks nast season as he prepares to look up forthe winter (5/5) (T) (5365563)

9.00 Search for Justice (1996) Drama charting a bereaved woman's desperate struggle to overcome official indifference and prove that her daughter was murdered. Peggy Lipton, Danica McKellar and Bruce Weitz star. Directed by Noel Nosseck (T) (99830327)

10.50 Poltergeist: The Legacy Derek Investi gates when Damon is accused of abusing his son (r) (T) (9417940)

11.45 Hollywood Madam (TVM 1994) A detective investigating a prostitute's murder stumbles into a dangerous world of blackmail. Adult thriller, with Michael Nouri, Directed by Fred Gallo (1155679) 1.15am Beauty and Denise (TVM 1988) A

tough cop protects a woman who witnessed the murder of a White House official. Political thriller, starring David Carradine and Julia Duffy. Directed by Neal Israel (1549341) 3.05 The Great Man's Lady (1941) The

widow of a western pioneer looks back on the part she played in his success. Stamng Barbara Stanwyck. Directed by William A Wellman (98951506)

4.35 Russell Grant's Postcards A winter sports exhibition (r) (80927693) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (9406411) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (9168148)

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• For further listings see Saturday's Vision

SKY ONE 7.00am Count Duckuta (84230) 7.30 The Chris Evans Bracklast Show (94259) 8.30 Hotywood Squares (40747) 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (50834) 10.00 The Oprah Wattery Show (69921) 11.00 Guilly (89765) 12.00pm Jerny Jones (81582) 1.00 Med About You (83501) 1.30 Jeopendy (78018) 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (47211) 3.00 Jerny Jones (46330) 4.00 Guilly (99037) 5.00 Star Yiek, Deep Space Nine (1834) 6.00 Alarned — With Chiefren (5765) 6.30 Frends (601m 2.00 The Simpsons (2561) Wastev Show (69921) 11,00 Gu 8.00 Marred — With Chedren (5766) 8,39 Frends (6016) 7.00 The Simpsons (2563) 7.20 The Simpsons (2563) 7.20 The Simpsons (2200) 8,00 Beat the Cruster (40259) 9.00 Surviving the Moneral Simpact 81 (2045) 10,00 Cops (45282) 13.0 Cops (54940) 11,00 Friends (90766) 11,30 Ser Trek. Deep Space Nine (55501) 12,30am The Commish (14322) 1,30 Long Play (7813490)

SKY BOX OFFICE Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film telephone 0990 800898 Sky BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 25) The Peacemaker (1997) SNY BOY OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) The Ice Storm (1997)
SAY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) Trial and Error (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58)

Fire Down Below (1997) FILMFOUR 6.00pm Short Altertion Span Criema (8615018) 8.00 Barcalona (1994 (8615018) 9.00 Bercelona (1994) (86658532) 9.40 La Reviel (2647501) 10.00 Metropolitan (1980) (4296834) 12.00am Rabid (1976) (2519233) 1.36 Un Filo (1972) (1940709) 3.10 Point Break (1991) (59617380) 6.00 Close

SKY PREMIER \$00am Closk and Dagger (1984) (1668) 8.00 Calm at Sunset (1997) (36105) 10.00 One Fine Day (1986) (71105: 12.00pm it Tales Two (1995) (59056) 2.00 Closk and Degger (1986) (12476, 4.00 Calm at Sunset (1997) H309; 6.00 ft Tales Two (1996) (2640) Vample in Brooklyn (1995) (27785) 10.00 Vample in Brooklyn (1995) (27184) 11.45 The Junor (1995) (271834) 1.40am The Desperate Trail (1994) (231254) 2.15 Working Giff (1988) (71952457)

SKY MOVIEMAX

SKY MOVIEMAX

5.35am The Last Beat Year (TVM 1990)
15.2743081 7.10 Beat to the Planet of the Apes (TVM 1974) (33742209) 9.00 Back to the Beach (1987) (33742209) 9.00 Back to the Beach (1987) (58327) 11.00 Time to Say Goodbys? (1987) (41258) 1.00pm All The Winters That Have Bean (1987) (52143) 3.00 Back to the Beach (1987) (33389) 5.00 Time to Say Goodbys? (1987) (3024) 7.00 Prievrew (7259) 7.30 UK Top 10 (1358) 8.00 Fernimes Fatales Sigourney Weaves (3679) 8.30 Move Magic Utimate Action (5414) 9.00 be (1986) (81018) 10.30 Contagious (1997) (25211) 12.00em Spill (1996) (52631) 13.0 Corriers (1997) (372099) 3.05 Escape from Zone 14 (1953) (259849) 4.40 All The Winters That Heve Bean (1997) (17244185) (1997) (17244186)

SKY CINEMA 4,00pm The Big Clock (1948) (786350*) 6,00 Bevare My Lovely (1952) (1215921) 6,00 To Each His Own (1948) (1227765) 10,00 Brubaker (1960) (87642653) 12,10em French Connection II (1975) (5276475) 2.06 The Solper (1952) (3004588) 3.40 Two for the Road (1967) [41824490]

TNT 9.00pm WCW Ndra (88937785) 11.35 WCW Thunder (89780563) 1.15am Where The Spice Are (1965) (897(3436) 3.15 Shaft in Africa (1973) (42004612) SKY SPORTS 1

6.30am Futures in Sport 7.00 Wresling 8.00 Live Golf Malaysian Open 10.00 Racing Nows 10.30 Footbalt League Paview 11.30 Whist a Decards 12.00pm Aerobes Oz Style 12.30 Sports Unitmed 1.30 Golf: Malaysian Open 3.30 US Golf: Pebble Beach National Pro-Am 5.30 What a Weekend 6.00 Sports Centre 7.00 Trans World Sport 8.00 Golf Malaysian Open 10.00 Sports Centre 11.00 Hold the Back Page 12.00am Sports Centre 11.00 Hold the Back Page 3.00 Hold the Back Page 4.00 Friday Night Footbalt 5.30 Total Sport. 6.30am Futures in Sport 7.00 Wiesling Football 5.30 Total Sport SKY SPORTS 2

6.00am Live Cricks 11.00 Rugby Cub 12.00pm Survival of the Fittest 12.30 Live Cricks 8.00 Cricket 10.00 US Golf Pebble

SKY SPORTS 3

11.30am Fulures in Sport 12.00pm Trans World Sport 1.00 Fishing, Tight Lines 2.00 Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook 3.30 Spanish Football 6.30 Moto-Plus 6.00 Spanish Football 6.30 Moto-rus Com-Extreme Saling 6.30 Inside the Senior PGA Tour 7.00 Live Friday Night Football 10.00 World Wiestling Federation. Raw 12.00am EUROSPORT

7.30em US Gott 8.30 Snowboarding 9.00 Extreme Sports 10.00 Racing Line 11.00

Live Luga 1.00pm Short-boarding 1.30 Live Live Luga 1.00pm Short-boarding 1.30 Live Tenns 4.00 Luga 5.00 Live Women's Alpine Sking 6.05 Live Athletos 8.00 Live Women's Alpine Sking 9.20 Live Women's Alpine Sking 10.30 Car on Ice 11.00 Playlie 11.30 Edrema Sports 12.30am UK GOLD 7.00em Crossroads 7.30 Neighbours 7.55 EastEnders 8.30 The 88 9.00 The 88 9.30 When the Boat Comes in 10.30 Rhode When the Boal Comes in 10.30 Frioda 11.90 Dates 11.58 Norphouse 12.25pm EastEnders 1.00 Julier Branc 2.00 Dates 2.55 The Bid 3.25 The Bid 3.55 EastEnders 4.30 Brods 5.00 At Creatures Great and Smell 6.00 Dynasty 7.00 2pcint4 Children 7.40 Dad's Army 8.20 The Obschives 9.00 The Thin Blue Line 9.40 Knowing Me, Knowing You with Alan Parindige 10.20 Knowing You with Alan Parindge 10.20 Ruby Wax Meets Held: Fless 11.00 The Bill 11.30 The Bill 12.00mm Doctor Who 3.00

GRANADA PLUS

8.00am Within These Walls 7.00 On the Buses 7.30 Doctor in the House 8.00 Beade's About 8.30 The Fosters 9.00 Classic Corcation Street 9.30 Emmerdate Farm 19.00 Intripsoneting 11.00 Hawas Five O 12.00pm Classic Comnation Street 12.30 Emmercials Farm 1.00 Neatest and Dearest 1.30 Agony 2.00 thinyscompting 3.00 The Love Boot 4.00 The Saint 5.00 Hawaii Five 0.800 Emmercials Farm 8.38 Classic Coronation Sireet 7.80 Mission Impossible 8.00 The Love Bhat 9.00 Classec Coronation Street 9.30 The Cornectents 10.00 Jokes Wild 10.30 Hogan's Heroes 11.00 Men and Motors DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Bear in the Big Blue House 6.25 Classic Toons 6.35 Gummi Bears 7.00 Classic Toons 7.10 Aladdin 7.35 101



Delimeters 8.00 Goot Troop 8.25 Cassa: Toons 8.45 New Adventures of Winne the Pools 9.00 The Adventures of Spot 8.65 Animal Shell 9.15 Pocket Dragons 9.30 Bear in the Big Blue House 9.05 The Toothbrush Family 10.00 Big Size 10.10 Tots TV 10.30 The Big Garage 10.45 PB and J Otter 11.00 Seasme Street 12.00pm De Adventure of Scot 13.05 Ameal Shelf and J Otter 11,00 Seatime Street 12,00pm The Adventures of Sport 12,00 Armard Shelf 12,15 Packet Disports 12,30 Bear in the Big Blue House 12,55 The Tochtcaush Farmly 1,00 Bite Size 1,15 Tots TV 1,30 The Big Garage 1,45 FB and J O ner 2,00 New Adventures of Winner the Poch 2,30 Cusck Pack 2,00 The Life Mermed 3,30 Art Article 4,00 101 Delimations 4,30 Hercules The TV Show 5,00 Recess 5,15 Peoper Ann 5,30 Smarf Guy 6,00 Teen Angle 6,30 Boy Meets World 7,00 Honey, I Shrunk the hots The TV Show 7,50 Classic Teors 8,00 FILME Labyrinth (1986) 9,35 Home Improvement 10,00 Densaurs 10,30 The Wonder Years 11,00 Touched by an Angel 12,00pm Close Increase His 3.30 Hay and 153 step Role 3.35 Mortal Knobal 4.00 Spid erman 4.25 Mowgl. The New Adversarse of Jungle Book 4.50 Home to Rent 5.00 Guosebumps 5.25 Eene, Indiana The Clifer Dimension 5.50 Copy and the Cockreaches 3.55 Donkey Kong Country 6.25 Sem and May 6.50 Eel Strevegenza 7.00 Ches

FOX KIDS NETWORK 8.00am Power Rangers Turto 6.30 Power

Steven Seegal stars as an FBI agent taking on corrupt business-man Kris Kristofferson in Fire Down Below (Sky Box Office 4) Rangers Turbo 7.00 Mortal Nombat 7.25

Rangers Turbo 7.00 Mottal Kombar 7.25 Oggy and the Cockroaches 7.30 Donkley Kong Country 8.00 Goosebumps 8.25 Sam and Max 8.35 Spoteman 8.00 K-Men 9.25 Famaste Four 9.50 The Incredible Hul-10.05 Cesper 10.30 Oggy and the Cockroaches 10.55 The Mouse and the Monster 11.05 Eer/Stranganza 11.30 Life with Loue 11.55 Home to Rent 12.05pm Sam and Max 19.30 Donkley Kong Country Sam and Max 12.30 Donkey king Country 1.00 Mourpi. The New Adventures of Jungle Book 1.25 Acc Ventura 1.50 Spacemen 2.16 **Man 2.40 Fartistic Four 3.05 The Incredible Huk 3.30 Roy and 1.53's Big

NICKELODEON

6.00am Mupper Bathes 6.30 Rocko's Modern Lite 7.00 Catdog 7.30 Rugrats 8.00 The Wild Thomberrys 8.30 Arthur 9.00

PAY TV: SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL 10,30 Babar 11,00 The Magic School Bus 11,30 PB Bear/Budge ine Little Helicopter/Animal Anics/Fornity Ness 12,00pm Rugnels 12,30 Bus's Clues 1,00 Barrenas in Pygenas 1,30 Little Bear Stones 2.00 Clangers/Fing Rollo/Worl 2.30 Children's BBC 3.00 Childre 3.30 Pippi Longstocking 4.00 Hey Amold! 4.30 Pugratis 5.00 State Issuer 5.30 Kenon and Kei 6.00 Sabrina the Teenage Which 6.30 Dillyen Crazy 7.00 Close TROUBLE

> 7.00em USA High 7.30 City Guys 8.00 Sered by the Bell The New Class 8.30 Hang Time 9.00 Tempesti 10.00 Echo Porni 10.30 Hollycaks 11.00 Sweet Valley High 11.30 Ready or Not 12.00pm The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air 12.30 In the House 1.00 Sweet 1.30 Tempesh 2.30 Hollyosis 3.00 Ready or Not 3.30 City Guys 4.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air 4.30 In the House

5.00 Saved by the Bell Tho New Class 5.30 Sweet Valley High 6.00 USA High 6.30 Moves, Games and Videos 7.00 Sweat 7.30 Hang Time BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team 9.00 LAPD 9.30 Cops 10.00 Edeme Champonship Wresting 10.30 Erote Series 11.00 FILM: The Thomas Crown Affair (1988) 1.00am Sex Bytes 1.35 Erote Series 2.05 Erreme Champonship Wresting 2.35 Cops 3.05 FILM: The Manitou (1978) 5.00 LAP 0 5.30 Bushido 6.00 Close PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Clueless 7.30 Grane Under Fire 8.00 Ellen 8.30 NewsRadio 9.00 Cytoil 9.30 Vic Fiebres Big Ngrs Out 10,00 The Rules 11,30 The Larry Senders Snow 12,00am Laie Night with David Lenerman 1,00 Tan 1,30 The Critic 2,00 Dr Fatz 2,30 Tios and Fibs 3,00 Nightsland 3,30 Abbot and Costello 4.00 Closs

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: 8pm-MIDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Bicomberg Information Television 7.30am biochical minimator free size 8.00 Sightings 9.00 Baltlestar Galacine 10.00 Quantum Leap 11.00 Dari Shadows 11.30 The Ray Bradbury Theatre 12.00pm The Twilight Zone 12.30 The Twilight Zone 1.00 Tales of the Unexpec Settlester Galectica 4.00 The Incredible Hull: 5.00 Signtings 6.00 The Ray Bradbury Theatie 8.30 New Affect Histocot. 7.00 Guanium Leap 8.00 Amazing Stones 8.30 Hullian 10.00 Filmi: Politergelst III (1988) 12.00am Filmi: The Wind of Amnester 1993) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 The Guyter 2.30 100 Years of Hortor 3.00 The Twingfir Lone 3.30 Deri Shadows 4.00 Cose HOME & LEISURE

6.00am Today's Gournet 6.30 Graham Ken 7.00 Crathwise 7.30 The Pamied House 8.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Baby Story 9.00 Simply Pamining 8.25 The Home and Lesure House 8.30 The Great Garden Game 10.00 Real Gardens 10.30 Exhina Artventures, 12,00cm Our House Down Under 12:30 Antiques Trail 1:00 Cur House 1:30 Hometime 2:00 New Yankes Workshop 2:30 Home Again with Bob Villa 3.00 This Old House with Sleve and Norm 3.30 Go Fishing DISCOVERY 4.00pm Rer Huni Specials 4.30 Walker's World 5.00 Wheel Nuis 5.30 History's Turning Pouris 6.00 Animal Doctor 6.30 Adventures of the Quest 7.30 Beyond 2000 8.00 Outback Adventures 8.30 Unchained

Africa 9.00 Snow Coaches 10.00 The Bounty Humer 11.00 Weatpons of War 12.00am Barry Gray 1.00 History's Turning Points 1.30 Wheel Nuis 2.00 Close ANIMAL PLANET 12.00pm The Blue Beyond 1.00 Nature Watch with Julian Pethler 1.30 Crocodile Hunter 2.00 Wild Rescues 2.30 Human/Nature 3.30 Harry's Practice 4.00 Jack Hanna's Zoo Life 4.30 Animal Dioctor 5.00 Pel Resour 5.30 Crocodile Hunto 5,00 Pel Roscus 5,30 Crocode numer 6,00 The New Adventure of Black Beauty 6,30 Lesse 7,00 Redispovery of the World 8,00 Animal Doctor 8,30 Animal X 9,00 Ocean Wits 8,30 Engagency Vets 19,00 Troubled Waters 10,30 Vet School 11,30

Emergency Vets 12.00am Close NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Fowl Water 7.30 After the Hurricane 8.00 The Shart Files Marmed with Sharks 9.00 Wildlife Wars 10.00 Africa

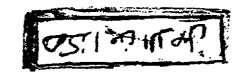
4.00pm The World at War Bomb **5.00** The Brooklyn *Bridge* **6.00** *Reincarnation* **7.00** Biography ldi Antin CARLTON FOOD

9.00am Food Network Daily 9.30 Food for Thought 10.00 First Taste 10.30 Wortall Thompson Cooks 11.00 Whet's Cooking? 11.30 Cooking? Food Methods Daily 12.30 Nowman Meets 1.00 Food for Thought 1.30 Condon Remany's Passon for Flavour 2.00 Can't Stand the Heat 2.30 Food Network Daily 2.00 Early 3.00 Feet Remany Stand the Work Passon Control Control 3.00 For Better, for Worse 3.30 Coxon's Fachon College 4.00 New Chets on the Block 4.30 Tessa Bramley's Country

Fachen 5.00 Close LIVING

6.00am Tiny and Crew 6.20 Johnson and 8.00am Tiny and Crew 6,20 Johnson and Frights 6,30 Phibert the Frog 6,40 Tiny Tales 6,45 Greedy-aurus and the Gang 6,50 Polika Dol Shorts 7,00 Practical Parenting 7,05 Protessor Bubble 7,30 Callou 7,35 Bug Alen 7,55 Prodical Parenting 8,00 Betney and Frends 8,25 Babaloos 8,30 Callou 8,35 Tiny and Clew 8,30 Practical Farenting 9,00 Carl Cook Wron't Cook 9,30 The Roseanne Show-Highlights 10,00 The Jerry Springer Show-Highlights 10,00 The Jerry Springer Show-10,50 Mayur Power 11,40 Livry Issues 10.50 Msury Povon 11.40 Living Issue: 12.10pm Anmal Rescue 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Special Babies 1.40 Beyond Basel Fact or Fiction 2.10 LA Law 3.10 Living Room 4.00 Michael Cole 4.50 Rolonda 5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook 6.15 The Jerry Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 9.11 7.35 Animal Rescue 8.10 Meury Povich 9.00 Fil.M: All She Ever Wanted (11.00 The Sex Zone 12.00sm Close ZEE TV

S.30am Music Time 6.00 Sony Meri Lony 6.30 Mart Muct Show 7.00 Feath 7.30 News 8.00 Zee World 8.30 Sellaph 9.00 Adhikat 10.00 Anhors 11.00 Zalek Ka Salar 11.30 Parampara 12.00pm FILM: Hitnell Mowle: Pyar Diwana 3.00 Zee Bengla 3.30 http:// Choice 4.00 Campus 4.30 Zee Zune 5.30 Amena 6.00 Artist of the Fortnight 6.30 Zee and You' Showcase 7.00 Chasine Baddops 7.30 Emerianment Express 8.00 News-7.30 Emertainment Express 8.00 News 8.30 Aushinvad 9.30 Fil.M: Hindi Movie: Barsaat Ki Raat 12.00em News 12.30





CRICKET 45

India trapped as Saglain spins his web

SPORT

GERALD DAVIES 49

English disdain serves to rub salt in old wounds



FRIDAY FEBRUARY 5 1999

Davies takes pivotal role for England

GEOFF THOMPSON. the chairman of the Football Association, is due to leave the country for a month-long break shortly, but the search for the next England manager will move on apace. The man pulling the strings, as he has been doing all week, will be David

Since his appointment as acting chief executive after the re-moval of Graham Kelly at Lancaster Gate. Davies has grown from being the FA's senior press officer to the most powerful administrator in the English game.

It was he, with Thompson, who brought together the men who would decide on Hoddle's dismissal and it will be Davies who will co-ordinate the appointment of the successor. It is a long way from his former incarnation as a BBC

Next Thursday, after the match against France at Wembley, Davies is expected to meet the FA's international committee and a group of four or five councillors will be empowered to lead the search. David Sheepshanks, the chairman of lpswich Town. David Dein, the vice-chairman of Arsenal, and Noel White, who chairs the international committee, will hope, and expect, to be charged with the job.

Bizarrely, Howard Wilkinson, the FA's technical director, who is standing in as caretaker coach of the national team, is also expected to have he is having serious thoughts as to whether he wants the job himself. Many at the FA expect Wilkinson to stay in the post at least until June and results in the interim could turn him into the main contender.

Yet it is not only Wilkinson who is on trial. It will be Davies's job to ensure that the search is an efficient one and the success of that operation may go a long way to determining whether he is appointed



Laslandes: starts match

nent basis or whether he chooses to pursue his political

Putting together the mechanism is likely to prove far easier than finding the coach. Having turned down the chance to France. Arsène Wenger is not going to opt for England, while senior Man-chester United figures acted yesterday to stifle talk of Alex Ferguson, who will be revelling in the attention, given that he is due to sit down to renegotiate his contract this summer.

The Old Trafford board believes that it can satisfy Fergusun's wage demands with the

DEFENDERS: L Blanc (Marselles), V Candeln (AS Roma) M Desaffly (Chelsea), F Lebosuf (Chelsea) B Lizarazu (Bayern Munich), L Thurem (Parma) MIDFIELD PLAYERS: A MINIFELLI PLAYERS: A Boghossian (Parmai, D Deschamps (Juventus), Z Zidane (Juventus), Y Djorka (Internazionale), E Petit (Arsenal), P Vietra (Arsenal) FORWARDS: N Anelka (Marcelles), R Pires (Marse L Laslandes (Bordeaux)

TWO

promise of a testimonial match and the seemingly im-minent appointment of an assistant would suggest that the United manager is content to limit himself to club level. Steve McClaren, the first-team coach at Derby County, has emerged as Ferguson's choice, and talks will begin today about a move to Old Trafford.

The only outstanding coach who is presently out of work is Terry Venables, who received the backing of Bryan Robson. the Middlesbrough manager, yesterday. "With Terry available, there is no way the FA should be looking at foreign coaches," Robson said, but Venables would appear to have too many influential enemies.

Given the difficulty facing the FA. Thompson is probably glad to be leaving the decision to his colleagues as to who should replace Hoddle. "Glenn had lost the general support of the country and he had also lost support on the international committee," Thompson said yesterday. "Glenn made a bad error of judgment and he accepts that now. I respect him for that. When in public life, it is important that people consider what they say on matters of

"Whoever gets the job needs to understand all aspects of the game. They must have qualities of leadership and vision and the ability to listen to other people. We want the best man for the job, we don't want to rush into anything, but, as far as I am concerned, the

For now, though, it is Wilkinson who must lead his country against a France squad that will include five England-based players in Desailly and Leboeul, from Chelsea, and Petit, Vieira and Anelka. of Arsenal. Zinedine Zidane, the World Player of the Year, was also among the 18 names announced yesterday. while Roger Lemerre, the France coach, has already confirmed that Lilian Laslandes. the joint-top goalscorer in the French league for Bordeaux. will start the match next

Wednesday. Asked if England would be affected by Hoddle's dismissal. Lemerre said yesterday: "The English will always be the English. For them, the truth is on the pitch and not outside. Their combativity remains a great strength. They

always bounce back. "It is easy to scoff at English football for being one-dimensional and to be condescending about it. That is an insult to all the English have done for fonthall. The long halls. clearances and crosses for headers are just a coricature. "Our challenge is to win at the Wembley temple. My players were world champions, so why can't they be the first French team to beat the Eng-



New York beckons unsung British boxer

Clarke sells leather to augment his boxing earnings and some worry that he might get tanned by the impressive Vargas on his New York adventure

Clarke relishes place

HOWARD CLARKE. eight-round journeyman from Warley, could barely believe his luck when he found himself on the New Year's Hon-ours List for services to boxing. Not the honours list that comes from Downing Street. or those high-sounding gov-ernment offices in Whitehall. but the one that is issued by

Madison Square Garden. Clarke has been chosen to meet Fernando Vargas in the latter's first defence of his International Boxing Federation (IBF) light-middleweight championship, a contest that is on the undercard of the Lennox Lewis v Evander Holyfield world heavyweight championship bout in New York on March 13.

Clarke. 31. thought that there was some some mistake

when Pat Cowdell, his manager, broke the news. After all, for most of his career, which started in 1991, he had not been called upon to journey too far from Dudley, where he works in Leather World. In 1998, he did box in Hammarskraal. South Africa, and Tenerife. but until then the farthest he had travelled was to

Boxing against Vargas at the Garden is the equivalent of Rushden and Diamonds playing at Wembley in the FA

at the Garden party By Srikumar Sen DRRESPONDENT fight. That meant more to me than the money. Although I Cup Final. "It was just after Christmas that Pat called me," Clarke said. "I hadn't

seen him for six months. He said: 'I've got a fight for you. Do you want it?' I said: 'Well, I don't know. OK, l'il take it. Where is it? He said: 'Sit down. Madison Square Garden. Against Fernando Vargas.' I thought it was a windup, but Pat kept saying it

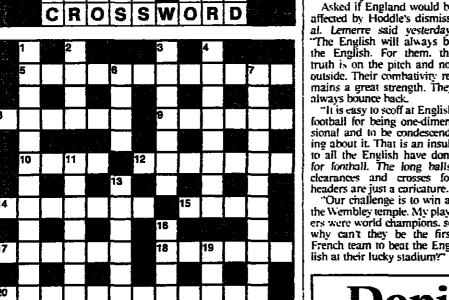
Clarke had been picked out of the IBF rankings because of the British interest in the main event, but he was not certain how he reached the rankings without even challenging for a British area title and having suffered ten defeats in his

37 contests. Clearly, though, it was on the strength of his win over Jason Papillion, of Louisiana, on the Carl Thompson v Chris Eubank card at Sheffield last July. Papillion had been in the IBF top 15. "I was all over him, beat him out of sight." Clarke said. The £500-a-night. have-bag-and-boots-will-travel fighter is reported to be receiving around £30,000 for the New York bout. But for him. the money is secondary. "I felt honoured that I was given the chance not only to fight at Madison Square Garden but on the undercard of don't know what I'll be get-

ting anyway, because [haven't seen the contract yet.' Not unlike those receiving honours from the Queen, Clarke had been told by Cowdell to keep the news to himself - but the boxer just had to tell someone. "How could I keep such a thing secret? I told my mum and dad and after that, of course, everyone knew. But I deserve it. After all, I beat a ranked fighter. I know I have to stay out of the pub and I've been out running in Warley Woods san's birthday. She's my rock. We've been married II years and we have five kids. I said to her: What do you want for your birthday? And she said: Bring me back the IBF belt. Yes, Vargas is a good fighter, but I'm a better one."

Let us hope everything in Clarke. Some experts are saying that he should not be allowed to take on Vargas. They are concerned about the discrepancy in the abilities of the two men, on paper and on canvas. The American, 21, is an exceptional boxer. All 15 of his bouts have ended inside the distance. Others believe that Clarke does not risk serious injury because the bout will be

John Morris, the secretary of the British Boxing Board of Control, said of Clarke: "He's a tough and professional fighter," but he added that the board would be considering whether the match was a suitable one before deciding whether to let him make the trip to



No 1633

DOWN

ACROSS 5 Careless with large (not small) sums (5-7) 8 Drive, thrust (6)

ence (6) 10 Rounded projection (4) 12 Capital of Sri Lanka (7) 14 (Job) opening (7) 15 Muddle: fellow-diners (4) 17 Computer trespasser (6)

18 Burning (with zeal, love) (6)

20 Firework display (12)

3 One for orator to stand on (7) 9 (Am. Ind.) ceremony: confer-4 Whale's nostril (8) 6 Toy figure (4) 7 Entertainment industry (4.8) II He summons Commons to

13 Marked (for life) (7) 16 Hit: party (slang) (4) 19 Fall in drops (4)

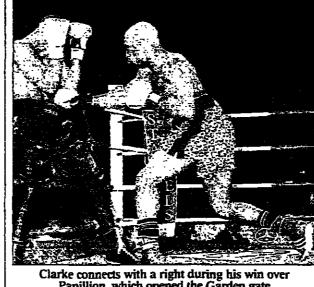
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SOLUTION TO NO 1632 ACROSS: 1 Two's company 8 Lethe 9 Capable 10 Haft 11 Runabout 13 Cutler 14 People 17 Absolved 19 Jamb 22 Bouquet 23 Dregs 24 Beyond a joke DOWN: 1 Tilth 2 Out of it 3 Chew 4 Mock-up 5 Alphabet 6 Yobbo 7 Nettle 12 Jealousy 13 Crabbe 15 Placebo a 16 Fenton 18 Squib 20 Baste 21 Idea

THEXESTIMES BOOKSHOP

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Papillion, which opened the Garden gate

Doping policy left stagnant

world conference on doping ended in fudged disarray here yesterday - becoming another missed opportunity to impose a severe anti-drugs policy.

The use of drugs in international sport has been widespread since the early Sixtles. Every time that there has been a high-profile incident. such as the death of Tommy Simpson, the British cyclist, in the 1967 Tour de France, or the positive finding on Ben Johnson, the Canada sprinter, at the 1988 Olympic Games, we have been told by the authorities that it was a "watershed" and things had

to change. They have not. This conference was called after the scandal of the 1998 Tour de France, when performanceenhancing substances were found in the equipment of teams and their officials. The final declaration vesterday by the conference, sponsored by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and attended by sports federations, scientists and governments.

was simply anodyne.

A conference that had a chance to help eradicate drugs in sport failed. John Goodbody reports

It lays down a minimum sanction for significant doping substances of two years for a first offence. However, the declaration allows for a possible modification of the

two-year sanction hecause

the sports of both football

and cycling beheve that they cannot impose such harsh restrictions. Tony Banks, the Minister for Sport, described the sanctions as

both "minimalist and permissive". Eleven years ago. in this city, the General Assembly of International Sports Federations also agreed to a minimum twoyear ban, although this agree-

ment has never subsequently

been carried out in several

sports - because, over the

past 1) years, competitors,

popular sports have increasingly challenged sanctions in civil law, claiming that they are an unjustifiable restraint of trade. Different countries have different legal systems and athletes are understanda-

bly resentful when their rivals are allowed to compete because they have The IOC won a legal case. The conference could did agree to set up have taken international anti-

doping agency in action time for the Olympic Games in 2000. The IOC is years ago' committing \$16

million in funding. However, European Union countries, the United States. Australia, New Zealand and Norway do not want the chairman to be an IOC member and are demanding a clear role for their governparticularly wealthy ones, in ments in the agency, A series of discussions will take place to settle the membership and

targets of the agency.

Banks said that having invited governments that contribute, collectively, far more than the IOC to the fight against drugs to the conference, it cannot exclude them from the agency. He added: "I say that in all friendliness because these issues are bigger than the IOC and at times it might come as a surprise to the IOC that there are things bigger than the IOC."

If the Olympic movement had wanted sole responsibility, it could have acted years ago. It was urged to act then, but he argued that it was only responsible for drug testing during the games.

Nor are governments blameless. In Great Britain. the Conservative Government repeatedly reneged on a promise made in September 1978 that the possession of hormone drugs, without a medical prescription, would become a criminal offence. The Labour Government now has an opportunity to join with a handful of countries which have already enacted such legislation.



